

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 866.—VOL. XXX.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1857.

[TWO SHEETS, FIVEPENCE.]

THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

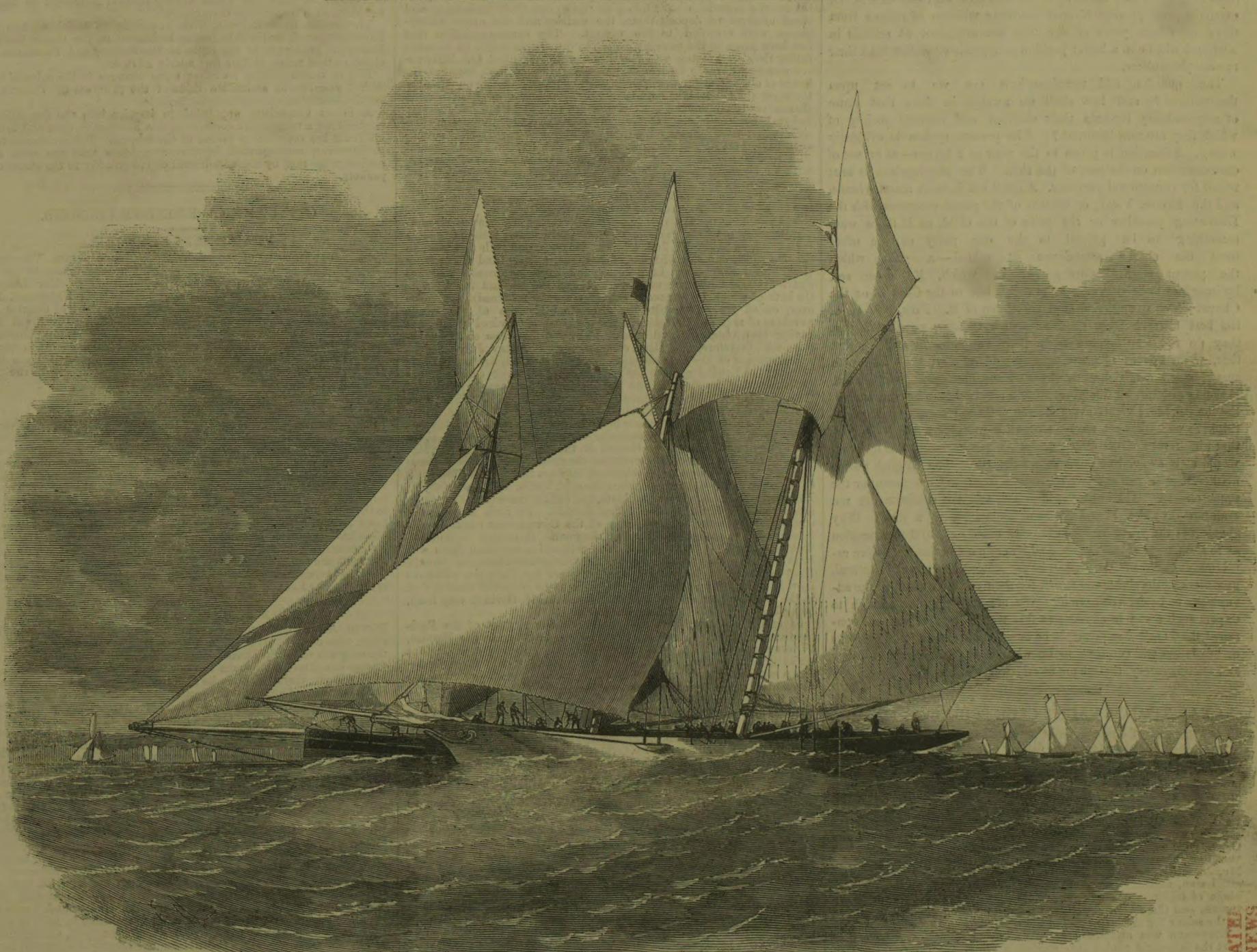
In an age when, if great principles are sometimes debated, they are seldom carried out to their legitimate conclusions, and when to patch, to temporise, to tide over difficulties, and to take what is called steps in the right direction, are the highest efforts of statesmanship, it is not to be expected that so large a question as that of the Education of the People will make the progress which those most ardently desire who have most thoroughly studied it. Nevertheless, as a means of educating the public on the subject of Public Education, we anticipate that much good will result from the Conference which assembled at Willis's Rooms on Monday last, under the high presidency of the Prince Consort, and continued its deliberation during the week. The more the facts are debated, which show the deficiencies of education in the British Isles, as compared with education in such countries as Germany and the United States of America, where National Systems, conveying instruction to the lowest strata of Society, have been established, and reduced to successful practice, the sooner will the day come when this great nation shall imitate the good example, and rescue from utter ignorance the children of the poor.

The speech of the Prince in inaugurating the proceedings of the Conference was admirable as a summary of the question; and both in what it said, and in what it hinted but left

unsaid, was statesmanlike and judicious. The main facts, as stated by his Royal Highness, and as known, with more or less precision, to all the advanced minds who have studied the question, are as simple as they are deplorable. Notwithstanding all the voluntary efforts, all the benevolence, all the liberality, of Churchmen and of Dissenters, of Corporations, and of individuals, there are in England and Wales, out of nearly five millions of children between the ages of three and fifteen years, little more than two millions who attend any school whatever, leaving 2,861,848—nearly three millions—who are not in receipt of school instruction. Yet the schools are in existence in every part of the country, rural as well as urban, which could provide for the instruction of the greater proportion of these neglected children. The well of clear water stands upon one side of the way and the wild horse stands upon the other; but there is no agency in existence which can bring the two together. The horse cannot see the water, or, seeing it, dreads that the benevolent hand which attempts to lead it to the spring will throw a bridle round its neck and carry it away into slavery. Nor is even this state of things—bad as it is—the worst part of the case. Of the two millions of children who attend existing schools, we are informed by the Prince that only 600,000—less than one-third—are above the age of nine. In

other words, more than half of the poor children of England receive no school instruction at all; and two-thirds of the remainder are taken away from school at an age so early that it is quite impossible for them to have received any enduring benefit from school teaching. The result is, if these figures are correct, that only about one child out of every eight in this rich, civilised, and Christian country remains at school after its ninth year. Well may the Prince Consort exclaim that these are startling facts. But where is the remedy? Neither his Royal Highness, nor any other of the speakers, has ventured to divulge it in plain terms; though both he and they have indicated the direction which the remedy ought to take.

His Royal Highness stated, in eloquent and comprehensive terms, the political and religious difficulties which beset the question. "Some," he said, "have sought the aid of Government, others that of the Church to which they belong. Some have declared it to be the duty of the State to provide elementary instruction for the people at large; others have seen in State interference a check to the spontaneous exertions of the people themselves, and an interference with self-government. Some, again, have advocated a plan of compulsory education based upon local self-government, and others the voluntary system in its widest development. While these have been some of the political subjects of difference, those in the religious field have not been less marked and potent. We find,



ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB SCHOONER MATCH: THE "WILDFIRE" AND "VESTAL" IN THE LOWER HOPE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

on the one hand, the wish to see secular and religious instruction separated, and the former recognised as an innate and inherent right, to which each member of society has a claim, and which ought not to be denied to him if he refuses to take along with it the inculcation of a particular dogma to which he objects as unsound; while we see, on the other hand, the doctrine asserted that no education can be sound which does not rest on religious instruction, and that religious truth is too sacred to be modified and tampered with, even in its minutest deductions, for the sake of procuring a general agreement."

Nothing could be better than this. On the social aspect and the social difficulties of the question his Royal Highness was equally clear in fact, equally sound in philosophy, and equally candid in avowal of the almost insuperable difficulties that surround the subject as with a belt of fire. "It will probably happen that, in this instance as in many others, the cause which produces the evil will be more easily detected than its remedy, and yet a just appreciation of the former must ever be the first and essential condition for the discovery of the latter. You will probably trace the cause of our social condition to a state of ignorance and lethargic indifference on the subject among the parents generally; but the root of the evil will, I suspect, also be found to extend into that field on which the political economist exercises his activity—I mean the labour market—demand and supply. To dissipate that ignorance and rouse from that lethargy may be difficult, but with the united and earnest efforts of all who are the friends of the working classes it ought, after all, to be only a question of time. What measures can be brought to bear upon the other root of the evil is a more delicate question, and will require the nicest care in handling, for there you cut into the very quick of the working man's condition. His children are not only his offspring, to be reared for a future independent position, but they constitute part of his productive power and work with him for the staff of life; the daughters especially are the handmaids of the house, the assistants of the mother, the nurses of the younger children, the aged, and the sick. To deprive the labouring family of their help would be almost to paralyse its domestic existence."

Where, again, we ask, is the remedy? The Bishop of Oxford almost stumbled upon it—but did not see it. He believed that the indifference of parents was one great cause of the evil they lamented, and that it was one only to be removed by awakening the minds of the working classes to the responsibility which lay upon them in this matter. He urged that the friends of education should exert themselves to show to the vast body of parents that the use of the schools was a positive and certain gain to their children, and recommended that for this purpose they should be united among themselves, and end their disputes and differences as to the value of the boon to be given. We wish we could see any hope that the recommendations of the Bishop would be successful. To expect religious men, the members of hostile sects, who war against each other with a bitterness in inverse proportion to the smallness and insignificance of the doctrinal differences between them, is to expect too much from English human nature. If we wait until that day dawns, not even the great-grandchildren of the three millions of infants from three to fifteen years of age now non-attendant at schools in England will be in a better position as regards education than their remote progenitors.

The question still remains—how are we to act upon the parents? and how shall we awaken in them that sense of responsibility towards their children and towards society of which they are now ignorant? The present system is evidently wrong. Education is given to the poor as a favour—as an act of condescension on the part of the rich. The begging-box is sent round for educational purposes. A great stir is made about schools, and the Rector, Vicar, or Curate of the parish competes with the Dissenting preacher for the prize of the child, as if there were something to be gained to the one party or the other from the child's attendance at school—a gain which the parent cannot always see; but which, if he can see, he imagines to belong, not to the child, but to the Church or the Chapel which struggles to gain possession of it. Now, it is one of the best characteristics of the English working population that they do not like favours from their superiors in society; and that, when not in absolute poverty and misery, they look with suspicion on a too ostentatious and too clamorous benevolence. If the Legislature of this great nation affirmed it to be the sacred, the inalienable, right of every British child to receive education, we think, as we have taken many an occasion to express in this Journal, that nine-tenths of the difficulties which now surround this question would melt away, like mists before the sun. The English people neither require nor approve of favours from the Government or the upper classes. The aged, the impotent, and the destitute are not maintained by the Poor Law as a favour, but as a right. Why should not the young children have as much right to their education as to their mere subsistence? And, if such a noble principle were established, would not the parents be the jealous, as well as the natural, guardians of the right, and insist, for their children, upon all the advantages to be derived from it? We are not sanguine enough to expect such a step in advance as this would be; but we are confident that, until that principle be acted upon, the national progress in Education will continue to be what it has hitherto been—slow and unsatisfactory, though not utterly worthless.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB SCHOONER MATCH.

THIS is generally the most interesting match of the season, inasmuch as it presents the most scope for the display of smart seamanship, and to the mere spectator affords a very delightful excursion. The weather was beautiful in the extreme on Friday week, although, from the circumstance of the wind being right ahead the whole of the "down" race, that portion of the trip was rendered a little tedious. The *Prince of Wales* (Murgate) steamer was chartered for the accommodation of the club, and started from Adelaide-wharf punctually at ten o'clock. The deck of this fine steamer was crowded by a goodly company, the élite including the Commodore of the Yacht Club, Lord Alfred Paget, who joined the vessel at Blackwall; Count Bathyan; Mr. Bramley-Moore, M.P.; Mr. John Walter, M.P.; Sir John Cathcart, and a number of naval gentlemen, amateur and professional. There was also a large assemblage of ladies. The two prizes—the first a splendid silver-gilt soup tureen, and the second an elegant frosted silver ewer—were displayed in the saloon for the inspection of the visitors.

Gravesend was attained soon after twelve o'clock, and from that point the following yachts duly started, a sixth, the *Pet* (160 tons), of Plymouth, owned by Mr. Alfred Tooth, having been withdrawn at the last moment:

FIRST CLASS, EXCEEDING 75 TONS.			
Vessels	Tons.	Ports.	Owners.
Zouave	99	Southampton	Mr. R. Arabin.
May Fly	113	Cowes	Mr. G. P. Bidder.
SECOND CLASS, UNDER 75 TONS.			
Aquiline	64	Harwich	Mr. Cardinal.
Wildfire	60	Cowes	Mr. Turner Turner.
Vestal	74	Southampton	Mr. F. O. Marshall.

Quarter-minute time per ton for difference of tonnage in each class. The distance to be sailed was from Gravesend, round the Mouse Light, and back to Greenhithe, a distance of nearly sixty miles. The start took place at 10.30m. 47s.; it was an excellent one for all; but the *Wildfire*, hampered by a moored vessel in her path, was the last off.

The *Aquiline* led slightly, but soon their positions were altered, the *Vestal* shooting by her to windward, the *Zouave* being third, and the *Wildfire* fourth. Soon the last named began to mend, and off the Chapman, by dint of the most capital sailing, their positions were altered to *Vestal* first, *Wildfire* second, *Zouave* third, and next the *Aquiline*, the first named leading by a quarter of a mile. From this moment the great contest lay between the *Vestal* and the *Wildfire*, which were qualified by their speed for the first instead of the second prize. It certainly was one of the prettiest matches on record; and they arrived at the Mouse Light in the following order:

	H.	M.	S.
Wildfire	4	28	20
Vestal	4	32	20
Zouave	4	43	20
Aquiline	4	46	20

Immediately after turning, the *Vestal* began to draw upon the *Wildfire*, and off Holehaven became level with her, and the most exciting race followed. They drew one another again and again to Lower Hope Point, where the *Vestal* gradually drew away, and, although she carried away her gaff topsail-yard towards the close of the match, they finished at Greenhithe as follows:

	H.	M.	S.
Vestal	7	15	45
Wildfire	7	20	15
Zouave	7	24	30
Aquiline	7	46	0

The *Vestal* allowing a quarter of a minute per ton, and the difference being 14 tons, gave her the victory by the time we have described, and, beating the *Zouave*, she took the first prize.

The prizes were afterwards presented by Lord Alfred Paget to the respective owners of the *Vestal* and *Zouave*, the first prize in value to the *Vestal*.

The band of the Coldstreams played during the day; and the luncheon was provided by Mr. Watts, in that excellent and superior style which makes the *Prince of Wales* the most eligible of all the river steamers for these occasions.

The *Vestal* was built by Inman, of Lymington, and in beauty is not excelled, if equalled, by any schooner afloat. She was sailed on this occasion by Pittock, of the *Thought* cutter, in his usual excellent style.

In our notice last week of the Royal London Yacht Club match, an error occurred in the names of the two last vessels and their owners, which should have been the *Mystery*, 18 tons, J. P. Dormay, Esq.; and the *Kitten*, 13 tons, R. Leach, Esq.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

Count Paul de Kisseloff, the Russian Ambassador, went on Saturday to St. Cloud, to deliver to the Empress, on the part of his Sovereign, the Grand Cordon of the Order of St. Catherine.

The subject of the elections still continues predominant in Paris. At four o'clock on Monday afternoon, the voting, which commenced on Sunday morning, terminated throughout France. So far as Paris is concerned, the elections have excited a movement far greater than were generally anticipated. It was not so much felt on Sunday; but the whole of Monday, and particularly the early part of it, the people was up and stirring. The right of taking out voting tickets continued up to the moment of closing the ballot-boxes, so that, between the crowds who flocked to take out their bulletins, and those anxious to deposit them, the mairies and the other voting places were crowded to the utmost. The recommendation that had been given to the working classes to proceed *en masse* on Monday rather than on Sunday was pretty generally attended to. This recommendation arose from a suspicion entertained that, between the hours of closing on Sunday evening and of recommencing on Monday morning, the too-zealous agents of the Government might take upon themselves to remove the seals which are affixed to the ballot-boxes before being transferred to the respective mairies, abstracting the tickets that were unfavourable to the Government candidate, and substituting others of a contrary description. This feeling had acquired such consistency among the working class, ever suspicious of the good faith of those in power, that in the Banlieue the National Guard requested to be allowed to take the place of the regular soldiers, to whose care the ballot-boxes were intrusted during the night. The Government at once acceded to the request.

The results of the Paris elections are as follow:—Of the ten circumscriptions into which Paris is divided Government candidates have been returned in the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th districts; in the 3rd, 5th, and 6th districts, Cavaignac, Carnot, and Goudchaux (Republican candidates) have been respectively returned. The 3rd district (where Cavaignac was returned) and the 4th and 7th districts (in both of which Government candidates were returned) have, however, ended without result—the absolute majorities of the whole numbers of registered electors in those places, as required by law, not having been obtained; and a second election for those circumscriptions will, therefore, take place, commencing on Sunday, July 5.

The success of the electoral demonstration in Paris against the Government of Louis Napoleon has far surpassed the most sanguine expectations that the Republicans had allowed themselves to entertain. Two of the Opposition candidates, MM. Carnot and Goudchaux, have been elected by enormous majorities. Cavaignac is at the head of the poll; and, although his election is not definitive, owing to his not having obtained an absolute majority of the registered electors, there can be no doubt of his being elected at the second trial on Sunday, July 5. In the fourth circumscription, the rival opposition candidates, E. Olivier and Garnier Pagès, obtained between them within 143 votes of the score of the Government candidate, M. Varin. In the seventh, M. Lanquetin, the Government candidate, had but 236 more votes than those given to MM. Darimon and Jules Bastide. In both these latter circumscriptions the bare majority of the Government candidates is insufficient, and there must be new elections. It cannot be doubted that MM. Garnier Pagès and Bastide will retire, and then there will be every prospect of the election of MM. Olivier and Darimon. Should these hopes be realised, out of the ten seats for Paris five will have been gained by the Opposition; and it is to be observed besides that in the second circumscription M. Bethmont ran M. Devinck very hard, being beaten by only 10,472 against 9070.

Several interesting facts are proved by the returns of the Paris elections. Thus, in 1852, at the first election under the Empire, Government obtained a majority of 44,000 votes in the capital; that majority is now only 14,000. In the first elections only three Opposition candidates were returned in all France. Paris has now alone elected two Opposition members, and has, *de facto*, elected three.

In the departments, however, the elections have been most favourable to the Government; indeed, if all the Opposition candidates had been elected, they would have formed an exceedingly small minority.

The total success of the Opposition appears to be—five Republicans and six Independent members. The latter comprise gentlemen of more or less liberal opinions, who have triumphed over Government candidates.

AUSTRIA.

Vienna was gay the latter part of last week with the centenary festival of the Austrian military Order of Maria Theresa, the coveted honour of all gallant soldiers in the Austrian army. If an officer has displayed extraordinary self-devotion and contempt of danger, he, "at the recommendation of his comrades," obtains the Knight's Cross of the Order; if a superior officer acts on his own responsibility, without orders from his chief, and by so doing turns the tide of war in favour of the flag under which he serves, he, "on the strength of evidence given by his fellows," receives the Commander's Cross. The Grand Cross is given only to those commanders who have fought and won a pitched battle, or have taken the initiative in critical moments, and by so doing have saved their country from some great danger. The only Grand Crosses are the Archduke John (1809), Marshal Count Radetzky (1848), and Marshal Prince Windischgrätz (1850). The ten Commanders are the King of Wurtemberg, Marshal Count Nugent (1813),

who is an Irishman by birth; Count Jellachich, Baron Hess, Count Thurn, the Archduke Albrecht, Count Wimpffen, Count Schlick, the Neapolitan General Filangieri, and the Russian General Lüders (1849). There are seventy-nine Austrian and some twenty-two foreign Knights. The only foreign Knights who were present at the festival were Prince Charles of Bavaria, Sir F. Moresby, Lord Seaton, General Suchosanet, and General Paniutine.

TURKEY.

According to the *Times* correspondent, a spirit of discontent is breaking out in Bulgaria, requiring a modification of the relations of Church and State. A number of petitions from Bulgarian communities have been presented to the Porte, complaining against the higher clergy sent there from Constantinople, and against their endeavours to suppress the Slavonic language in the Liturgy, and to introduce the Greek language instead. We are reminded that the immense majority of the Christians of the Oriental Church in European Turkey are not Greeks by race or language. Indeed, out of the 10,000,000 belonging to that religion in European Turkey, only 1,000,000 are Greeks; of the rest 4,000,000 are Roumans, in Wallachia and Moldavia, less than 1,000,000 Armenians, and all the rest are either Slaves by race, or have become Slavonians in the course of time. In this number the Bulgarians are rather more than 3,000,000. With the exception of the Armenians and 1,000,000 Servians, who constituted themselves as early as the fourteenth century into a national Church, all the Christians of the Oriental Church are under the spiritual rule of the Greek Patriarch and his Synod at Constantinople.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The present Session of the Cape Parliament was opened on the 7th of April by his Excellency Sir George Grey, who had just returned from the frontier. His Excellency expressed his satisfaction at the conduct and appearance of the German Legion, and gave a favourable account of the state of the frontiers, and of the general condition of the colony. The speech was received with great satisfaction by the two Houses and the country. All the Government bills with reference to the frontier policy of his Excellency have either been unanimously agreed to by the two Houses, or carried by large majorities. The Colonial Government on the 27th April sustained a severe defeat in the House of Assembly. A bill had been introduced for a system of public education. The bill intended to overthrow the first-class schools which are at present maintained solely by the Government, and to grant aid to schools only on condition of local contribution; it also proposed to abolish the office of Superintendent-General of Education, and to place the Colonial Secretary, *ex officio*, at the head of that department. It was thrown out on the second reading by a majority of 25 to 9.

A Committee appointed by the House of Assembly to report upon the proposed harbour of refuge to be constructed in Table Bay has recommended that it be proceeded with.

The Kaffirs were quiet, but in great distress, and many of them were entering the colony to seek for employment.

UNITED STATES.

It is stated that General Cass has written to Lord Napier positively declining to reopen negotiations for the present on the Central American affairs, and that America will not do so until England recedes from her unwarrantable assumptions in regard to those States. Mr. Buchanan refuses to recognise Costa Rica in the matter of the Nicaragua transit route.

According to present indications the late collision between the Federal and State authorities in Ohio will not terminate without some further trouble.

Reliable intelligence from Kansas indicates the certainty of that being made a free State, as the settlers are overwhelming in favour of freedom.

The President is moving in a decided manner with reference to Utah affairs. 2500 troops are now on the march for the territory, and several hundred others will soon follow. Colonel Cummings has received the appointment of Governor of Utah. At the latest dates from that territory all was perfectly quiet.

AUSTRALIA.

The chief event in the New South Wales papers is the prorogation of Parliament after the usual stormy Session incidental to the first works of a responsible Government.

The Hunter River Railway, from Newcastle to Maitland, has been formally opened, and will in future be known as the Great Northern Railway. Its length is the same as the Sydney and Paramatta line, about sixteen miles, and its cost nearly £170,000.

It is in contemplation to effect some changes in the colonial tariff, and, if possible, to assimilate those of the province of Victoria and South Australia.

A Select Committee appointed to inquire into the feasibility of establishing a telegraphic communication between Sydney and London via India has reported in favour of the scheme. The recommendation is, however, accompanied by the suggestion that the cost must probably be met by the withdrawal of the subsidy to the steam mail-packets.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

VISCOUNTESS EVERSLY.

THE lamented death of the Right Hon. Emma Laura, Viscountess Eversley, took place unexpectedly, after a few days' illness, on the 20th instant, at her new family residence in Eaton-place. Her Ladyship was the youngest daughter of the celebrated Samuel Whitbread, Esq., M.P., by his wife, the Lady Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Charles, first Earl Grey, and was married, the 24th June, 1817, to the Right Hon. Charles Shaw Lefevre, the recent Speaker of the House of Commons, who was raised to the Peerage as Viscount Eversley on the 23rd of March last. By this

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

PERHAPS the chief feature in the doings of our Legislature during the last few days has been a broad hint or two given to Lord Palmerston that he is not omnipotent in Parliament. Great conquerors have often fallen in the very flush of victory by very small agencies; and Palmerston received his first defeat in his own Parliament from Sir Denham Norreys.

The occasion was suggestive. It afforded a curious proof that when job meets job then comes the tug of war. The question was whether the landlords of Scotland were to get their estates surveyed, down to the marking of the very acres of every one of their farms, at the cost of the purchase of an Ordnance map for a pound, with the advantage of twenty-four inches to the mile over English proprietors, while Irish country gentlemen had only obtained a benefit over the Saxons to the extent of five inches. The combat between the Celtic elements raged with various fortune for many a long hour; the insertion of a word or two—meek and sarcastic respectively—by Sir William Jolliffe and Mr. Henley, from the Saxon point of view, being utterly lost in the dialectic and idiomatic storm of words raised by the members for the sister kingdoms. The Government unwisely suffered its Scottish representative at the Treasury to pledge it to the Caledonian requirements in the matter; and, spite of an appeal truly pathetic from the Premier not to embarrass him with the figure-compelling Mr. Wilson by touching his Estimates, a majority of the House decided that, although they could not now prevent Ireland from having six inches, Scotland should not have an ell, while England had only an inch. The interview between Lord Duncan, the present member of the Government, who had led them into this minority, with Mr. Hayter, must have been affecting; and, doubtless, Duncan was driven by the whips and scorns of the Secretary to the Treasury into a fitful fever, after which he did not sleep well. As for Sir Denham Norreys, his mild and gentle aspect was so changed next day, his port was so grand and swelling, that, having a motion on the paper for altering the mode of voting on the Estimates, Lord Palmerston was fain to beg him, as he had found he had a giant's strength, not to use it like a giant, and to spare the Government another defeat. The worthy member, having been just the day before, was generous then, and gave way; and when he brought on a third motion, relating to the fiscal arrangements of Irish counties, he did seem a little conscious of the fact that he had become famous as the Parliamentary personage of the week: all who are mere mortals will sympathise with and excuse him. Indeed, in considering the effect on his mind of such afeat as he had achieved, one could not but look to other consequences which flowed from that circumstance, coupled, perhaps, with the narrow majority (gained only by proxies) in the Lords by which Government carried the second reading of the Ministers' Money Bill. For the first time since the meeting of the new Parliament Mr. Disraeli assailed the Ministry in something of his old trenchant style—very much diluted, certainly, in the style; but as haughty—not to say insolent—as ever in the manner. To be sure the occasion was tempting, for Lord Palmerston had shrunk from asserting the great principle he laid down in the famous "Civis Romanus sum" speech, and did not protect the British subject or the British flag outraged at Greystown by the strong arm of the United States. Perhaps the First Minister was not sorry that, having already spoken, the rules of the House prevented his making an attempt to justify his falling away (even according to the idea of a leader of Opposition) from a doctrine so essentially Palmerstonian.

In these days the civilised world is deprived of the satisfaction—we will not say pleasure—of seeing the effect on a person of his being placed in the pillory; but a lively notion of the aspect of a culprit in such a guise may be presented to the imagination by witnessing the scene which attends the examination of a man at the bar of the House of Commons. The prisoner (for he is even in such a character for the nonce) is surrounded by officers of the House, headed by the Serjeant-at-Arms, holding the mace apparently in a convenient position for using it after the manner of Walworth when he arranged the little difference between the King and Wat Tyler; and he is carefully docked out of the House by an actual brass rod, which slides after the manner of a telescope into positive vision, over the space which is technically and abstractedly the "bar," in the same way that there is a Holborn bar and a Smithfield bar. There he stands, pale and frightened, while the Speaker shakes his powdery locks (of his wig) at him, and interrogates him, with all the terror which surrounds a Parliamentary Rhadamanthus. It was on an unusually dull Friday evening, when the spasmodic speech-making and questioning with which members always think it necessary to wind up the week's work had been quite infinitesimal, and the House was about to subside into business, when the dreadful fact was announced that some corruption, flagrant and palpable, had been found out (that was the rub) in connection with the Rochdale election petition. The House was roused in a moment, just as the lounging tranquillity of a meet at cover is changed into excited bustle at the sound of the huntsman's v'ew-halloo. Man must hunt something; and the House of Commons loves a man-hunt, and is not particular whether the hue and cry is after one of their own members or any one else. On this occasion, technically speaking, the chase was a legitimate one; and when the first witness came to the bar there was a famous meet of members to enjoy the sport. Positively, the Speaker is a nervous man. Nothing could be more hesitating and inapt than his mode of interrogating the witnesses. Lord Palmerston interposed with only so much success as accompanied his natural and acquired ease of manner; but he soon yielded to the Attorney-General for Ireland, whose old "Nisi Prius" instincts were instantly aroused, and who went in for the luxury of cross-examination with a sense of enjoyment which only lawyers know. On the face of it the business was a bad business; but it was not long ere it seemed that, notwithstanding the vigour of the House, the main offender would slip through its fingers, and this not the less from the anxious desire of members to give publicity to the affair. Cannot one just conceive that the anger of honourable members when excluded from the deliberations of the Committee may have been caused, not so much by a simple virtuous indignation at their not being allowed indirectly to express their detestation of corruption by mobbing the decoy of Rochdale, as by a desire to see how it happened that the thing was discovered? But let us be charitable.

A remarkable feature in this Session is the tendency to work shown by the Lords. They have given up their chartered sittings from five to seven, and hang bravely on, night after night, till nine or ten. Even the Bishops, who are accustomed to enter a standing protest against fashionable extravagance in the matter of time by dining punctually at half-past six, and who usually leave the Episcopal bench vacant at a quarter past that hour, have remained in a serried phalanx, variegated by white lawn and black silk, till most unclerical hours. But, indeed, the whole tendency of Parliament this year is to treat the Session as a period in which a number of disinterested gentlemen are to work eighteen hours a day for their country's good, and to enable Parliament to adjourn before September. The sittings in both Houses are long and late, while the work at Committees in the mornings is of a nature to excite the surprise of the most stalwart gold-diggers. There is a symptom that energetic and conscientious memberdom will have its reward by a prorogation, at least in the middle of August; for the first Government bill of the Session has been withdrawn, on the ground that there will be no time to pass it this year.

COUNTRY NEWS.

THE MANCHESTER ART-TREASURES EXHIBITION.—Most extensive preparations have been and are still being made in Manchester for the reception of her Majesty on Tuesday next. We annex a few details from the official programme of the ceremonial. Her Majesty, accompanied by his Royal Highness the Prince Albert, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, his Royal Highness the Prince Alfred, her Royal Highness the Princess Alice, and his Royal Highness Prince Frederick William of Prussia, will leave Worsley Hall, the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Ellesmere, at nine o'clock, in the Royal carriages. The procession will be escorted by the Lancashire Yeomanry. Her Majesty will arrive at the Exhibition building at eleven o'clock precisely, and will be received by a guard of honour and a Royal salute. Her Majesty and the Royal party, entering the reception-room, will be thence conducted by the president, the chairman, and the members of the Executive Committee, along the central hall to the dais in the Transept; and, having taken their places on the dais, the orchestra will perform the National Anthem; upon the conclusion of which an address will be presented to her Majesty by the chairman, on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Exhibition, to which her Majesty will graciously reply. The address from the Mayor and Corporation of Manchester will then be read; to which also her Majesty will reply. The orchestra of 600 performers will then perform the Coronation Anthem (Handel), during the performance of which her Majesty and the Royal visitors will proceed to examine the picture-galleries, which will be exclusively reserved for the Royal party until their departure from the Exhibition. The Royal visitors will then return to the Transept, and will be conducted down the central hall to the reception-rooms; and, on leaving the Exhibition, will return to Worsley by the same route as before.

DEFICIENCY IN THE SUPPLY OF COTTON.—PUBLIC MEETING IN MANCHESTER.—A very influential meeting was held in the Town-hall, Manchester, on Friday week, "to take into consideration the present inadequate supply of cotton, and the best means of extending its growth." The large room was filled. Lord Stanley and other gentlemen entered minutely into the present condition and prospects of the cotton trade; the inadequacy and precarious nature of our supply of cotton; and the capabilities of India to yield, with proper encouragement and care, an abundant supply of the cotton plant. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were passed; and a petition to the House of Commons on the subject was agreed to: which petition recites the importance of the cotton manufactures—amounting last year to more than £38,000,000 (the raw material for the year being 900,000,000 lb., of which 700,000,000 lb. were received from the United States); and states that India contains large tracts of land suitable for the production of cotton; concluding with a prayer for the removal of obstacles for a better supply of cotton from that vast territory.

LEICESTER TESTIMONIAL TO SIR JOSHUA WALMSLEY.—On Tuesday, in the Market-place at Leicester, a testimonial, consisting of silver plate, together with an address signed by nearly 7000 ladies of Leicester, and another signed by about 6000 men, electors and non-electors of the borough, was presented to Sir Joshua Walmsley, its late representative, by way of a practical protest against the result of the late election. A procession escorted him from Danett's Hall, the residence of Dr. Noble, to the hustings erected in the Market-place, where the presentations took place.

OPENING OF THE SANDY AND POTTON RAILWAY.—The opening, on the 23rd inst., of the Sandy and Potton branch, some forty-eight miles down the main line of the Great Northern, although but three miles and a half in extent, marks an era in the history of railways, it having been constructed at the sole cost of Captain Peel, R.N. The country which this branch passes is of a light yet rich and prolific character, principally employed in the raising of garden produce, its vegetables being famous in Covent-garden quotations. The little and truly English town of Potton was hung with banners, and the woods around had contributed whole trees, which were made to meet at their tops as if they had grown in the rustic streets, which were also spanned with triumphal arches of evergreens. Bands of music conducted the guests in procession to the market-place, where an excellent luncheon was served. A generous overflow of this description took place in the highly-tasteful grounds of Mr. Carrington, the chairman of the executive committee. Several speeches upon the occasion were made at the banquet. Some good singing contributed to the enjoyments of the day, and the presence of a vast concourse of handsome and elegantly-dressed ladies within the dining-booth added its customary grace to the assembly. Amongst the visitors from London were Mr. Silcock (Captain Peel's agent), Captain Jay, W. J. O'Connell, Esq., &c.

TRADE STRIKES AT LIVERPOOL.—The cabinetmakers and stonemasons of Liverpool are in the fourth week of their strike for an advance of wages, and there appears to be no prospect of an arrangement. The stonework at several large piles of extensive and splendid offices in the neighbourhood of the Exchange has come to a standstill in consequence.

MURDER AND ROBBERY.—Chingford Hatch, a few miles from Woodford, Essex, was on Sunday the scene of a brutal murder. In the forenoon Mr. and Mrs. Small left their house for the purpose of attending the parish church at Chingford, leaving the house in charge of an aged female, who acted as a confidential housekeeper and cook. The unfortunate female had sent an invitation to her niece, who reached the house between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock, when, having entered the back kitchen, she perceived the body of her aunt lying on the floor, with the head nearly severed from the body, the throat being cut in two places. The mangled remains were lying in an immense pool of blood, and the appearance of the room left unmistakable evidences of a violent struggle having taken place between the murderer and his victim. Upon the police searching the house it was found that the murderer, after committing the act had gone to Mr. Small's bureau in one of the upper rooms, and taken therefrom a hammer and chisel, with the aid of which he forced open the whole of the drawers, and robbed the place of money, watches, and jewellery. The police, whilst prosecuting their search, found a knife smeared with blood in a salt-box, and a ciaspknife, with a buckhorn handle, rather rusty, in a bowl; and it is supposed that, failing to accomplish his purpose with the aid of the first-named weapon, he had recourse to the second; hence the cause of the two wounds in the throat. Information of the occurrence was immediately dispatched to the different police-stations of the metropolitan and City forces, but as yet the assassin has not been discovered.

MURDER OF A WOMAN BY HER HUSBAND.—On Monday, at the sittings of the magistrates at Stratford, Michael Crawley, a labourer, was examined on the charge of having murdered his wife, by beating in her skull with a billhook. The prisoner was a jobbing labourer, and his wife went about selling small parcels of greengrocery. On Saturday morning, after breakfast, he demanded 1s. 6d.; his wife refused him, having to purchase her small stock of greengrocery. A married daughter, Mrs. Wilby, who was living in the same house with them, stated that he vowed he would do for her if she did not comply with his wish. The daughter did not think very seriously about his threats, as he was often in the habit of making them, and left about half-past eight. She returned at half-past nine, and on going up to her mother's bedroom she found her lying on the floor in a pool of blood. The deceased was found to be breathing, although quite insensible. There were seventeen cuts about her head and body. Her dress showed that she had had a severe struggle; and her pocket, containing the eighteenpence and some duplicates, was torn out. She died the following morning. On search being made, the daughter found in a cupboard a heavy iron billhook chopper, the edges of which were covered with blood, with portions of the old lady's hair adhering to it. On Monday morning the prisoner was apprehended, and, on being informed of the serious charge against him, he replied, "It is a bad job; I have done it, and I was coming to the station to give myself up." He further added that he had taken the 1s. 6d. in the deceased's pocket, and that he had burned the pawnbrokers' duplicates. The prisoner was remanded to Ilford Gaol, to await the result of the coroner's inquest.

TWO MEN KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—On the afternoon of Tuesday an awful thunderstorm occurred in the neighbourhood of Inkpen, situated a few miles from the town of Hungerford, in Berkshire. Three men, named Martin, Buxey, and Palmer, were employed in mowing when the storm broke over the place. Buxey and Palmer, as the rain was falling heavily, seated themselves beneath a large lime-tree; but Martin walked off to a cottage, and was safely sheltered. In about half an hour after the storm had abated both Buxey and Palmer were found lying on the grass beneath the tree, quite dead—the electric fluid having first struck the upper part of the tree, then descended it, and laid prostrate the two men who were sitting there. The clothes of Buxey were found to be on fire; and the hair of Palmer had been much scorched.

THE ATROCIOUS CRUELTIES ON BOARD THE "MARTHA AND JANE".—The investigation into the circumstances connected with the death of Andrew Rose, a seaman on board the above ship, has been frequently adjourned; but much of the evidence adduced was merely corroborative of the particulars previously published. The deceased was beaten regularly every day, sometimes as often as six times a day, by the captain, and frequently by the mates. On one occasion the captain slipped a noose round the deceased's neck, and the mates hoisted him about three feet from the deck. They kept him suspended for about two minutes, "until his tongue protruded from his mouth, and his eyes glared fearfully." When let down the deceased was quite insensible for about five minutes. The deceased went up aloft naked, and on one occasion the chief mate followed him and flogged him with a whip until the blood flowed from his legs and back. The prisoners were fully committed for trial for wilful murder.

APPREHENSION OF THE SUPPOSED MURDERER OF MR. LITTLE.—A painter, named Spollen, has been charged by his wife with the murder of Mr. Little, the cashier of the Midland Railway, Ireland. The money abstracted has been found at the spot pointed out by her. Spollen and his son have been arrested, and were taken before the magistrates for examination on Thursday.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 649.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The members appointed to serve on the Mayo, Cambridge, and Rochdale election petitions were sworn at the table, and ordered to meet in their respective committee-rooms to-morrow.

JUDGMENTS EXECUTIONS BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Judgments Executions Bill, but, before any business was proceeded with, Colonel FRENCH moved that the bill be postponed till the other orders of the day were gone through, on the ground that the Irish members were absent on a deputation to the Prime Minister.

Mr. CRAUFURD refused, and on a division the motion was rejected by a majority of 93 to 31.

Some wrangling ensued on the Scotch law terms used in the bill, after which

Mr. PACKE said he thought it was rather tyrannical in English and Scotch members wishing to force this measure down the throats of the Irish members, and he moved that the Chairman now leave the chair.

The Committee again divided, when the motion was rejected by a majority of 103 to 73.

A second attempt to report progress was made; but this time the majority had rallied, and the motion was rejected by a majority of 141 to 50.

Another lengthened discussion took place, varied with occasional motions to report progress. In the midst of it the LORD ADVOCATE suggested that, if the Irish members would consent to withdraw their opposition, he, the Solicitor-General, and the Attorney-General for Ireland would carefully go over the bill and see what further amendments, in accordance with the views already expressed, could be adopted. The Irish members were at first disposed to agree to this suggestion, on condition that the bill should be re-committed. The Lord Advocate objected to this, but said the amendments could be adopted on bringing up the report. So the discussion, almost entirely on verbal matters, went on till five o'clock, when Mr. Cranford, having obtained the passing of the 7th and 8th clauses, and seeing no hope of further advancement, consented, at the suggestion of the Attorney-General, to report progress.

THE SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETIES BILL.—This bill went into Committee; but opposition was offered to some of the clauses, and Sir W. HEATHCOTE moved that the Chairman do leave the chair. This motion was defeated by a majority of 100 to 76. The hour of adjournment having by this time arrived, the Chairman reported progress. The Consolidated Fund (£3,000,000) Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

SALE OF OBSCENE BOOKS, &c., PREVENTION BILL.—Lord CAMPBELL, in moving the second reading of this bill, said that the evil was most alarming. At present the only remedy was to indict the publisher for a misdemeanour, and the utmost difficulty was experienced in carrying the law into effect. He proposed to give the police power, upon obtaining a warrant from a magistrate, to enter any establishment suspected of having those abominable productions, and seizing them, and carrying them away, just as in the case of smuggled goods.—After some discussion the bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Lord R. GROSVENOR gave notice that, on an early day, he would move an address to her Majesty, praying for a commission to inquire into the possibility of improving the Liturgy of the Church of England.

Mr. LOWE, in reply to Mr. Ingham, said that the state of public business rendered it hopeless to pass through Parliament this Session a bill for the abolition of passing tolls; and he, therefore, very reluctantly, postponed its introduction until next Session.

THE OATHS BILL.

On the order for the third reading of this bill, The Marquis of BLANFORD moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a third time that day six months. The admission of the Jews to Parliament was not a plan and a project which that House ought to entertain, because the Crown of this country was held, as publicly professed in all its documents and all its acts, "by the grace of God." His object in opposing the bill was, that its true character might be known before it went to receive the judgment of another tribunal.

Mr. DRUMMOND, in seconding the amendment, said he was bound to give to this extraordinary bill, at its last stage, his most determined opposition. In itself the bill contained no propositions at all; and all that could be extracted from it was, that it was framed for the purpose of admitting Baron Rothschild to that House. Much had been said of the respect that was due to the citizens of London; but he had no respect for them, for they had returned the Jew as an intentional insult to the House and an intentional insult to Christianity (cries of "Oh, oh!"). He did not attach much importance to the argument that the admission of Jews would unchristianise the country, for he could not believe that the House would ever entertain the bill until it was unchristianised ("Hear, hear," and laughter). Nor did he attach any importance to the argument that it would weaken our ecclesiastical system, for Bishops were divided against Bishops on all material questions of doctrine and discipline; and, while the great Cathedrals of St. Paul's and Westminster were closed, Bishops were preaching in an unconsecrated concert-room, and yet they could have the impudence to go down into the country and quarrel with the people about consecrated and unconsecrated burial-grounds (Hear).

The O'DONOGHUE said he would oppose the third reading, unless Lord Palmerston would pledge the Government to bring in a bill next Session to deal with the Roman Catholic oath also.

Mr. BALL spoke in support of the bill.

Mr. DILLWIN regretted that Lord Palmerston had accepted the amendments excluding the Jews from certain high offices of State; but he would, nevertheless, support the bill.

Mr. COLLINS opposed the bill because it admitted the Jews, and because it did not deal with the oath of the Roman Catholics.

Mr. BOWYER announced his intention to vote against the bill because it did not do justice to the Roman Catholics.

Mr. DEASY deeply regretted that he could not vote for the third reading of the bill, because it would create a new distinction between Roman Catholics and Protestants, but he could not bring himself to vote against it. The hon. and learned gentleman then left the House.

The House having divided, the numbers were—For the third reading, 291; against it, 165: majority, 123.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

METROPOLITAN WORKHOUSES.

On going into Committee of Supply, Viscount RAYNHAM moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the condition and administration of Metropolitan Workhouses, and into the arrangements made and carried out by the parochial authorities of the metropolis for giving relief to the poor.

Mr. BOUVIER opposed the amendment, which, after some discussion, was rejected by a majority of 73 to 52.

The House then went into Committee of Supply upon the Civil Service Estimates.

PUBLIC EDUCATION.

On a proposed vote of £361,233 for education in Great Britain, in addition to £18,000 already voted,

Mr. COWPER made a statement of the progress of education in connection with grants of public money, in the course of which he said that during the past year such grants had been made towards the building of 242 schools, and the enlargement of 262 others, providing additional accommodation for 32,000 pupils. The entire amount granted towards similar purposes from the commencement was £580,000, in aid of about £1,500,000 raised by voluntary subscriptions, accommodation being so provided for 495,000 scholars. The number of schools now liable to inspection was 7508, against 4738 in 1854; while 4120 had actually been inspected during the past year; and applications for aid were considerably on the increase. Out of 5,000,000 children it appeared, from the inspectors' returns, that 3,000,000 were at school, and, as some of these attended for such short periods, he thought it quite possible that the whole of the 5,000,000 might



WEST-STREET, D'URBAN, NATAL.

THE ZULUS OF NATAL.

(From a Correspondent.)

In the present stormy state of South African politics the annexed Portrait (from a photograph by Tunney, of Edinburgh) may interest our readers. It is that of Sifile, a genuine Zulu boy, who, about fifteen months ago, accompanied his master, Mr. S., from Port Natal to Edinburgh, where he resided till a few days ago, when he left for Port Natal. He is about seventeen years of age, son of a Kaffir witch-doctor (usunusi or inzanga), follower of Mawe (aunt of Panda, present King of the Zulus), who fled from Zululand to Natal about the time of Sifile's birth, and his name, signifying nearly dead, is said to have been given from the hardships endured by his mother during her

The Zulus proper are a comparatively small tribe, who, by the genius of Panda's elder brother, Tyaka, about thirty years ago, became the most powerful tribe in South Africa, subduing all around for hundreds of miles, and incorporating the conquered tribes (except those who fled and are known in the Cape as Fingoes) into one vast nation, called by the white men indiscriminately Zulus, but by themselves still retaining their tribal names.

Tyaka's armies twice swept Kaffirland to the borders of the Cape territory, and were probably prevented entering the colony only by the murder of Tyaka by his brother Dingaan, in 1828. Dingaan reigned for a comparatively quiet period of ten years, extending his protection to the few English settlers at Port Natal, and allowing missions to be established; but about the end of that time the Dutch emigrants from the Cape arrived in Natal, and, after some hard fighting and much suffering, succeeded in weakening the Zulu power, killing Dingaan and placing Panda on the throne of a territory bounded at the south by the Tukela river, the north-east limit of Natal. On the British taking final possession of Natal, and routing the Dutch in 1843, Panda at once declared for us, and has ever since been friendly, possibly more from fear of the Dutch than love for us. He is a very stout good-looking man of say fifty years of age, of a humane disposition for a Kaffir, never killing more of his subjects than, as he says, is absolutely necessary to make them remember he is their King. But notwithstanding this leniency, his subjects have always shown a predilection for British rule, and thousands have yearly crossed the boundary and settled in Natal, where they pay a hut-tax of some £10,000 a year most regularly and cheerfully, and where they form a splendid source of labour, if governed with only common discretion. There are in Natal about 130,000 of these refugees; but not more than 3000 of them are Zulus proper, who stick well by their King. The rest are members of vanquished tribes, many of them the original inhabitants of Natal.

The Zulus are a tall, athletic, handsome race, with a bold military carriage—honest and hospitable among themselves. Every man becomes a soldier and joins a regiment when he is about sixteen, and to this regiment he belongs for the remainder of his life, and must be ready to start at a moment's warning for the military kraal of his regiment, where he spends six months of each year. There may be some twenty of these regiments, each distinguished by the colour of the shield (isihlangu), and some by ahead-dress. These regiments are divided into married (amododa) and unmarried (insiywa) soldiers. A whole

regiment marries at once, by the King's order; but after they have once got permission they may take any number of wives.

They have never been at war with the British, and from their very courage and predilection for close quarters, and fighting in open country, were never to be dreaded like the skulking Amoxosa, our usual enemy, though superior to them in everything but the possession of fire-arms. And now their power seems broken for ever, and the only trouble we shall have will be in finding capital to supply work for them as refugees in Natal.

The Zulu country is in most parts superior to Port Natal, both as an agricultural and a grazing country; there is very fine timber in some parts, it is well watered, and more than one of the rivers might be made, not navigable, but into good harbours for small craft. A more beautiful country does not exist, and with these advantages it seems a pity to let a race of white barbarians, like the Dutch Boers, get possession of it, even if it did not vitally concern Natal, that no foreign Power should have possession of a port to supply the Transvaal Republic, Orange-tree State, and other places in the interior, with merchandise. But we hope the British Government will see to this, and, at least, keep possession of the coast, and prevent the slavery and massacre of the Zulus sure to follow the occupation of this land by the Dutch.

FISH TAKEN OFF ST. THOMAS'S.

(From a Correspondent.)

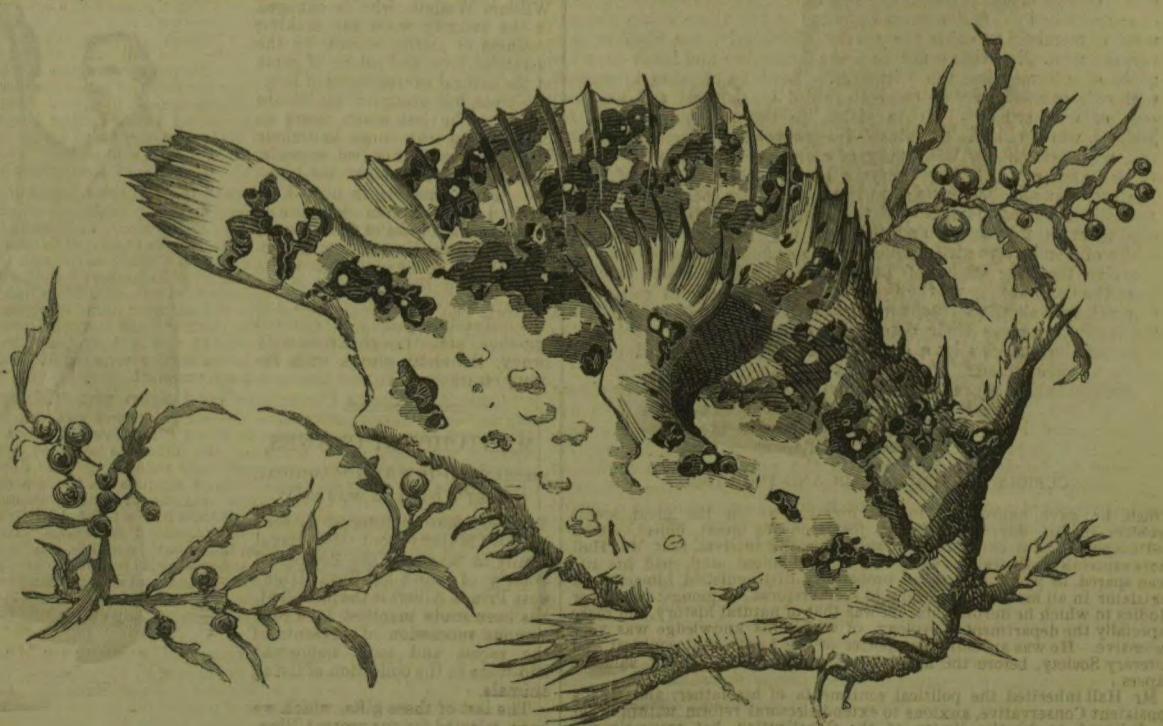
May 14, on board *La Plata*, off St. Thomas's. This fish, of which I send you the drawing, was caught about 1500 miles N.E. of St. Thomas's, amongst the Gulf weed. Imagine an ugly bloated sort of perch, with a slimy, offensive skin somewhat allied to the frog, inasmuch as it had lungs. Its fins resemble hands; the tail is unfishlike, coming to a point. This creature has no means of defence, but it is marked so like the weed it lives in that it would be most difficult to find. The extremities are so soft and flabby that they look just like seaweed floating about. It lives on shrimps and small crabs, which frequent the Gulf of Florida: it has no teeth, but its gums are hard; six or seven small crabs were found whole in its stomach. The Sketch, which I am enabled to send you through the kindness of my friend Lieut. Archer, of the 3rd West India Regiment, is four-fifth the size of this remarkable creature, which was thrown on board by the wheel of the steamer.



ZULU YOUTH.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

flight. Before leaving Africa he had been about five years in Mr. S.'s employment, most of the time being spent in the Zulu country, where Sifile, though a mere child, was often left in sole charge of a wagon and a large quantity of property, to which he invariably proved a bold and faithful protector. While in Britain he readily adopted European habits, learned to read and write, and evinced great anxiety and capability for information and improvement.

Sifile wears the dress of the Zulus, the goatskin girdle (umutya), and holds the usual Zulu weapons—viz., an assegai (umkonto, or ikwa), of which, on an expedition, they carry three smaller for throwing; that in his hand (ikwa), being kept till the last for close quarters, their favourite mode of fighting. The loss of the ikwa was punished by impalement on return from an expedition, unless the soldier brought the weapon of a dead enemy. Besides the assegai, he holds two clubs (iwisa, literally knocker-down), of which the oval-headed one was a present to Sifile's master from Tyongwin, a popular son of Panda, and probably he who had his hands cut off in the late disturbances; the other club and the assegai were taken for insolence from a Zulu of the Utulwan regiment, the principal actors in the recent massacre, and of which Citwaya Umbulas, the leader of the insurrection, who was flayed alive, and several more of Panda's sons were captives. Round his neck is a buffalo-horn box for snuff, of which all Kaffirs are immoderately fond, and use till the tears run down their cheeks.

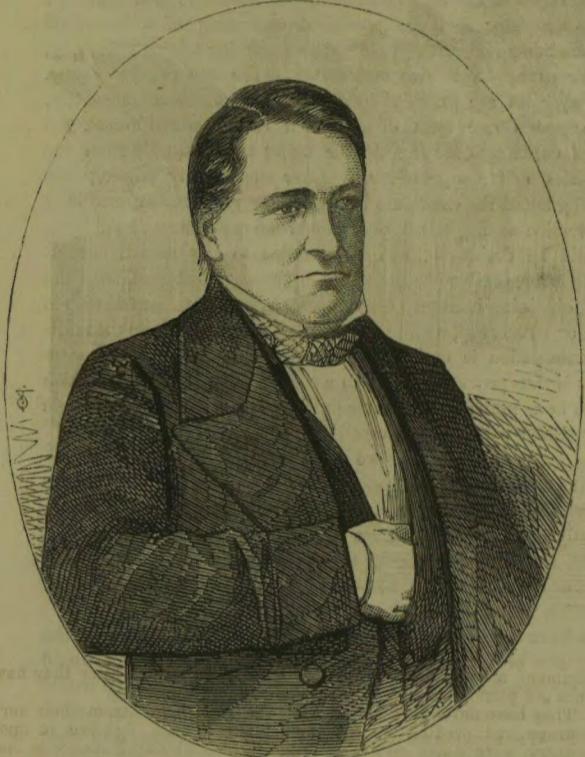


FISH TAKEN IN THE GULF WEED OFF ST. THOMAS'S.

THE LATE MR. ROBERT HALL, M.P.

The death of this highly-respected member for the borough of Leeds took place at Folkestone on the 26th ult. At the recent general election he was returned after a close and severe struggle, the labour and excitement of which told seriously upon his system. He is also stated to have received injury from sitting in the House of Commons near one of the openings for the admission of air. Influenza came on, and added to the depression of his system. He retired to Folkestone for relaxation: here he grew worse, and expired in a few days. We abridge the following memoir of his career from the *Leeds Intelligencer*:

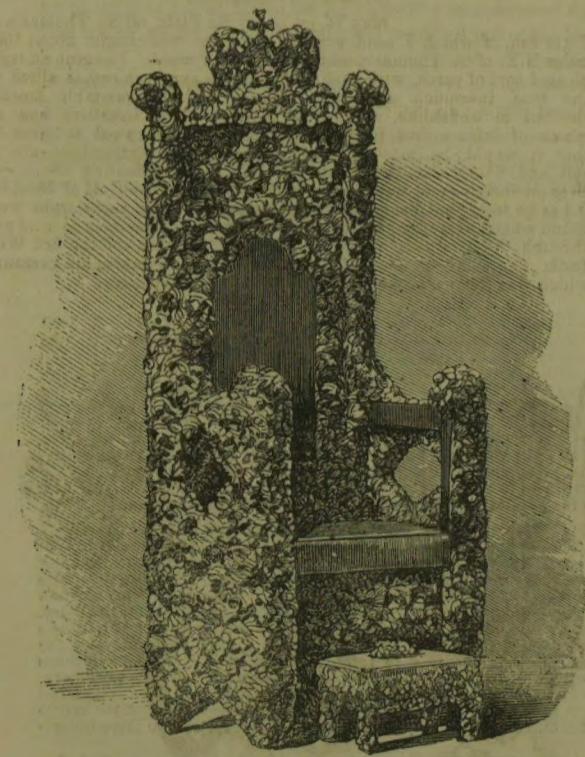
Mr. Hall was born at Leeds, in 1801, and was the only child of the venerable Henry Hall, Esq., of Bank Lodge, who survives him, the representative of one of the oldest and most respected families in Leeds. On attaining his boyhood he was sent to the Grammar School at Heath, near Halifax, where he remained three years, and was then removed to the Leeds Grammar School. After a most successful school career he went to Oxford, and entered as a commoner at Christ Church: he took the degree of B.A. in 1823, being placed in the 1st class in classics, and in the second class in mathematics, and of M.A. 1826. In 1828 he was called to the bar at Lincoln's-inn, and from that time up to his death he was a distinguished member of the Northern Circuit, enjoying an extensive and increasing practice in the *Nisi Prius* Courts. He left Leeds in the year 1845, and went to reside in the Middle Temple, London. In his profession he was not prominent as a practitioner in the courts, but was esteemed one of the best chamber counsels at the bar. He was deeply read in law, and possessed a sound and cautious judgment, which seldom led him astray in giving his opinion on the questions submitted to him; and in this branch of his profession he enjoyed a large and lucrative practice until a serious railway accident in 1855 compelled him to limit his labours. In 1842 he was appointed Deputy Recorder of Leeds, and in 1845 Recorder of Doncaster, both of which appointments he held at the time of his death. In



THE LATE MR. ROBERT HALL, M.P. FOR LEEDS.

1848 he was appointed Lecturer on Common Law at the Inner Temple, and held the appointment up to 1852. The duties which these appointments devolved upon him were ever discharged with singular ability and impartiality.

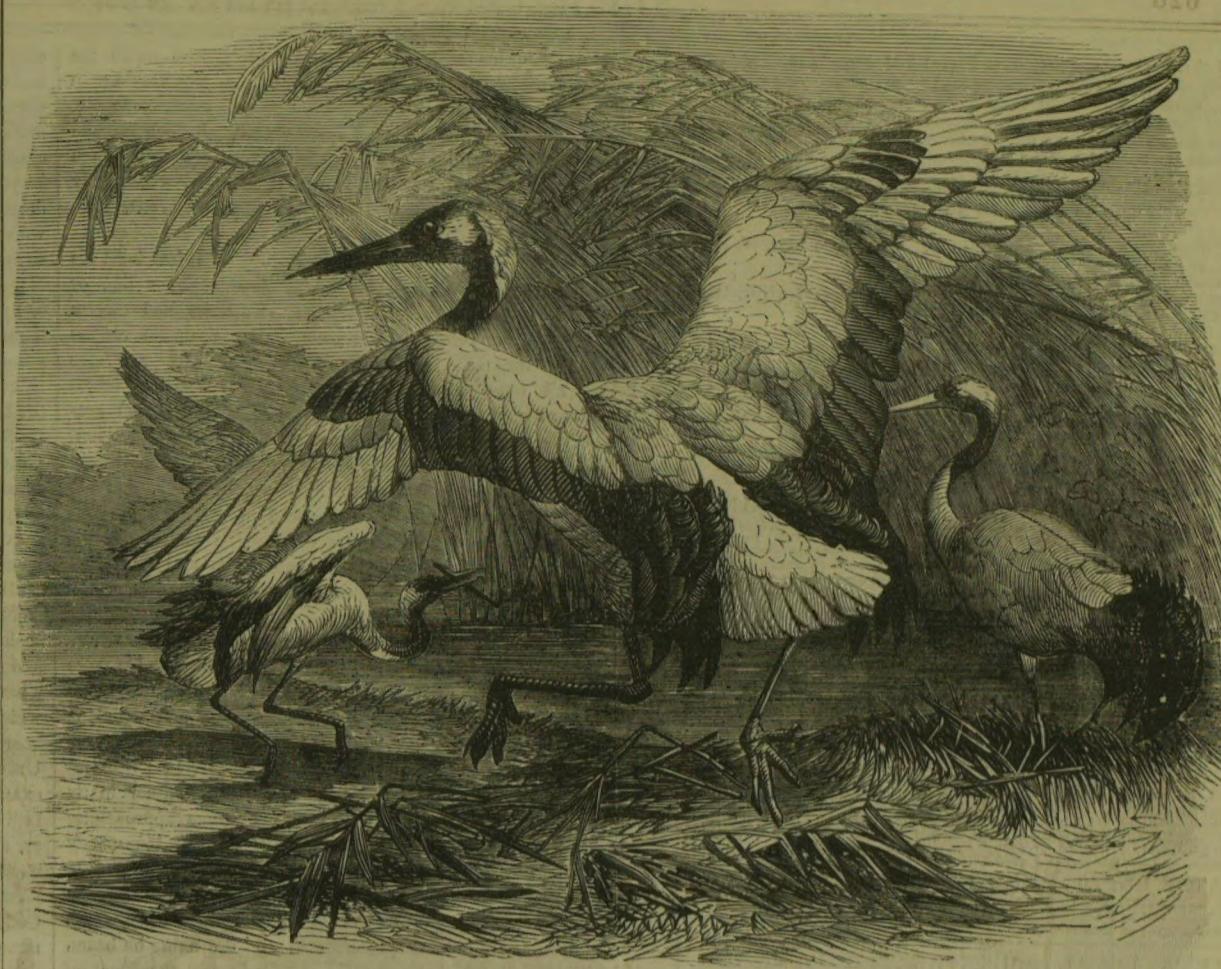
His high professional position, though it absorbed most of his time, did not preclude him from devoting his attention to important social and political questions. He was known as a warm and attached supporter of local charities, and of the Church of England. During his residence in Leeds he was elected a patron of the parish church, and also one of the Committees of Pious Uses. He originated and personally superintended a Sunday School at Richmond-road, Bank; and to the time of his death was the teacher of the first class in the Sunday Schools of St. John's, Westminster. Of later years his studies had been directed more especially to the important question of the treatment of juvenile criminals, to which his mind was turned by the experiences his judicial duties too frequently afforded. During the long vacations he usually visited the Continent, and inspected the principal reformatories in France and Germany, and during these tours secured the friendship of M. de Metz, one of the founders of Mettray. Subsequently he published two lectures, one on "Mettray," and the other "Visits to Continental Reformatories," in



CURIOS OAK HALL CHAIR AND FOOTSTOOL.

which he gave expression to his own views on the great social problem of his day. It was to forward this great object, which had become to him one of intense and absorbing interest, that Mr. Hall more especially was desirous of a seat in Parliament; and, had his life been spared, he would have in all probability distinguished himself as a legislator in all matters pertaining to social reform. Amongst the minor studies to which he devoted himself was that of natural history, and more especially the department of geology, of which his knowledge was very extensive. He was an active supporter of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, before the members of which he read many valuable papers.

Mr. Hall inherited the political sentiments of his father, and was a consistent Conservative, anxious to extend electoral reform within what he believed to be the limits of the Constitution, but earnestly and determinately opposed to extreme measures, tending to revolutionise the



MANTCHOURI CRANES IN THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Constitution and to swamp the representation of property in that of mere numbers. Trained in political life by the example of his father, he took an active part in political questions, and was one of the most energetic supporters of Mr. Michael Thomas Sadler at the general election in 1832. At the election of 1834, on Mr. Macaulay becoming a member of council in India, he acted as chairman of Sir John Beckett's committee. He occupied the same post at the general election in 1835, and contributed to Sir John Beckett's return on that occasion by the sound judgment and untiring energy which he displayed. The increasing professional claims upon his attention after this compelled him to withdraw for the time from active political life; and it was not until the general election of 1852, when he was nominated by the Conservatives of this borough at the eleventh hour, that he reappeared in the arena of politics. On that occasion he was unsuccessful, but he was returned, as already stated, for Leeds, at the general election in March last.

Mr. Hall's remains were interred on the 29th ult. in the family vault at Whitkirk Church. In the funeral cortège was a numerous attendance of the magistracy and gentry of Leeds; and the funeral service was read by the Rev. Mr. Martineau and the Rev. Dr. Hook, the latter reading impressively the lesson and the concluding portion of the service at the graveside.

The accompanying Portrait of Mr. Hall has been engraved from a painting in the possession of the family.

DISTIN'S MONSTER DRUM AT THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

A PROMINENT feature in the orchestra at the late Handel Festival was the monster bass drum manufactured by Mr. Distin, the well-known musical instrument maker of Cranbourn-street, of which the above is an Engraving. The important aid which it lent to the instrumentation must have been appreciated by all who heard it. The diameter of the instrument is nearly seven feet. The tympanum was made from the largest buffalo-hide ever imported into England, reduced by machinery from a thickness of a quarter of an inch to the substance required. It was found impossible, by the usual steam process, to bend the woodwork of the frame, which had therefore to be composed of about 300 pieces nicely dovetailed together. The arrangements for tuning and strengthening are alike unique, and the tone is wonderfully rich, full, and resounding.

A large Engraving of the impressive scene of the Orchestra in the Crystal Palace, and the conclusion of our report of the performance, will be found elsewhere in the present Number.

CURIOS PIECE OF CABINET-WORK.

A WORKING man, of the name of William Wollatt, who is engaged in the railway wood-key making business at Derby, struck by the beautiful form and colour of some of the natural excrencences of English trees, has occupied his leisure time for the last seven years in constructing the large hall-chair and footstool which we engrave. The chair is about eight feet high the strong framework of oak is covered by about ten thousand of these gnarly pieces of wood (some of which are remarkably appropriate; for instance, the knots forming the feet resemble lions' claws); the whole have been judiciously selected and neatly united together, and, though necessarily heavy, the chair moves with facility on its castors.

MANTCHOURI CRANES, PRESENTED TO THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY BY HER MAJESTY.

THE well-known interest evinced by her Majesty and the Royal family in favour of the Zoological Society, of which his Royal Highness Prince Albert is the president, has been made manifest by a continuous succession of presents of the rarest and most important additions to the collection of living animals.

The last of these gifts, which we have selected for our present Illustration, consisted of a pair of



DISTIN'S MONSTER DRUM AT THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

a pair of them, which were taken to Paris by M. Montigny, about the time at which the present birds were sent to her Majesty by Sir John Bowring, have already made their nest, and hatched there, in the Garden of Plants, in two successive seasons. The Mantohouri crane is at once distinguished from all the others by its superior stature and the brilliant contrast of its plumage.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 28.—3rd Sunday after Trinity. Q. Victoria crowned, 1838.
MONDAY, 29.—St. Peter.
TUESDAY, 30.—Earl of Argyll beheaded, 1685.
WEDNESDAY, July 1.—Battle of the Boyne, 1690. Battle of the Nile, 1798.
THURSDAY, 2.—Hungerford Market opened, 1833.
FRIDAY, 3.—J. J. Rousseau died, 1778. Quebec founded, 1608.
SATURDAY, 4.—Trans. St. Martin.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 1857.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M 35 h 6 58	M 7 20 h m 7 45	M 8 10 h m 8 40	M 9 10 h m 9 35	M 10 5 h m 10 35	M 11 5 h m 11 37	M 0 8

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—IL DON GIOVANNI. Piccolomini, Spezia, Ortolan, and Albion; Belletti, Belletti, Beneventano, Corsi, Vialletti, and Gugliani. On MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 28, IL DON GIOVANNI. To be preceded by the Last Act of LA SONNAMBULINA. Anolina, Mdm. Bonelli, and Elvino, Signor Belletti. Between the operas a Divertissement, in which Mdlle. Bonelli will appear. The Performance will commence at Half-past One and terminate at Five o'clock. Tuesday, June 29, IL TROVATORE. Thursday, July 2, an Extra Night. LA TRAVIATA, and Ballet. Divertissement, in which Mdlle. Bonelli and Mdlle. Pera Nona will appear. Wednesday, July 8, Mr. Benedicti's Last Grand Morning—Prices for the Morning Performance as follows: Boxes, Pit, and Grand Pair, 24 4s.; Grand Tier, 25 5s.; Second Pair, 23 2s.; Half Circle, 21 1s. 6d.; Pit, 8s. 6d.; Pit Stalls, 2s.; Gallery Stalls, 5s.; Gallery, 3s.; to be had at the Box-office, at the Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—MONDAY, Tuesday, and Wednesday, THE RIVALS. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, THE HUSBAND OF AN HOUR. After which, every evening, a New Farce called THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR, and ATALANTA.—Mr. Buckstone's Annual Benefit on Wednesday, July 8.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—MONDAY (last time), KING RICHARD II. TUESDAY, THE Theatre will be closed for a night Rehearsal of the TEMPEST. WEDNESDAY, Shakespeare's Play of the TEMPEST will be produced. THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, The TEMPEST. Proceeded each evening by MUSIC HATH CHARMS.

THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.—Second Week of Mr. and Mrs. BARNEY WILLIAMS, the Real Irish Boy and Yankee Gal.—MONDAY, and during the Week, will be performed IRELAND AS IT IS; a New Farce never Acted; and IRISH ASSURANCE; or, Yankee Modesty.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Recommendation of the Dramatic Season.—On June 29, July 1, and July 3, the entertainments will commence with MAZEPPE and the WILD HORSE; at June 30, July 2, and July 4, to commence with RICHARD III.; with Equestrian Illustrations. Concluding with SCENES in the ARENA. First Appearance of Mdlle. Millos. Commence at Seven o'clock.

STANDELD THEATRE.—London astonished every night by Professor ANDERSON, the Great Wizard of the North; whose immense success surpasses all precedent. He not only fills the Theatre but the street outside it, every evening at half-past Seven.

M R. and Mrs. HENRI DRAYTON'S ILLUSTRATED PROVERBS. First Night of a New Illustration, "Love is Blind," written and composed by VAL MORRIS, Esq., except Saturday at 8 o'clock; Saturday Morning, at 3 o'clock; at Regent's Park, Quadrant.—Admission, 1s., 2s., and Stalls, 3s., at the Gallery; and at Cadby's Music and Pianoforte Warehouse, 42, New Bond-street.

MISS P. HORTON'S NEW ILLUSTRATIONS.—Mr. and Mrs. HANRED will repeat their entirely NEW ENTERTAINMENT at the ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, every Evening (except Saturday), at 8; Saturday Mornings at 3.—Admission, 2s., 1s.; Stalls, 3s.; Cramer, Beale, and Co., 201, Regent-street.

M R. W. S. WOODIN'S OIL OF ODDITIES, with the New Costumes and various Novelties, Vocal and Characteristic, EVERY EVENING (Saturday excepted), at Eight. A Morning Performance every Saturday, at Three. Private Boxes and Stalls may be secured, without extra charge, at the Box-office. Polygraphic Hall, King William-street, Charing-cross.—Tickets may be had at the principal Musicians'.

CANTERBURY HALL, WESTMINSTER-ROAD, Open every Evening.—The best Vocal entertainment in London. Ladies and Gentlemen of acknowledged talent are retained for the performance of selections from all the popular Operas, Choruses, Madrigals, Glees, Duets, and Solos, commencing at 7 o'clock. Suppers, &c., until 12.

M R. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, BADEN, UP the RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN every evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock. Stalls, 2s.; boxes, 2s.; gallery, 1s. Stalls can be secured at the Box-office, Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly, every day, between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge.—The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.

THE GREAT UNITED STATES CIRCUS. Sol Proprietors, Messrs. HOWES and CUSHING. This gigantic establishment, fitted out in New York with a Stud of Eighty American Horses, landed in Liverpool April 18th, 1857. The Company has been selected from the principal American Amphitheatre for their talents, regardless of expense, in order to present an entertainment to the public of England hitherto unequalled. Among the most prominent features of their entry in the towns they visit will be the Apollonides, and the Charlot, drawn by Forty-four-coloured Horses, driven in hand by Mr. J. P. Paul—a feat never before attempted by any other person. The Company will visit the following counties, entering the towns in grand procession, and give two performances each day, commencing at two and half-past seven:

Monday, June 29, Pontefract.	Nottingham.
Tuesday, 30, Rotherham.	Ditto.
Wednesday, July 1, Sheffield.	8, Loughborough
Thursday, 2, Ditto.	9, Lincoln.
Friday, 3, Chesterfield.	10, Rugby.
Saturday, 4, Derby.	11, Northampton.

And the Counties of Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Gloucestershire.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE VARIETE, LIVERPOOL.—Fifteenth Week of Unabated Success—Unparalleled—of the Star Company of Great Britain.—The Extraordinary Performance of Young Hengler nightly hailed with the most enthusiastic applause.—Hundreds crowd nightly to witness the Gymnastic and Equestrian Artiste, together with the great Clowns of the day. Messrs. Frowde, Nelson, Chatteris, Jackson, Bibb, and Edwards.—On MONDAY, JUNE 29th, select routine of Novelties and Daring Exploits, being for the BENEFIT of HEIR HENGLER.—A Grand Mid-day Performance will take place this day (SATURDAY, June 27), commencing at Half-past Two o'clock, when the whole of the celebrated troupe will appear.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. CHARLES HENGLER.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE VICTORIA CROSS.—The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last Week contains a Supplement, printed in Colours, containing the List of the Recipients of the Crosses for the Army and Navy, and Engravings of Remarkable Exploits and Acts of Heroism exhibited by our Soldiers and Sailors during the Russian War; and the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Next Week, July 4, will contain A LARGE ENGRAVING of the DISTRIBUTION of the VICTORIA CROSS by HER MAJESTY in Hyde Park.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1857.

The Emperor of the French has been accustomed to give "warnings" to the newspapers. He has now received a warning in his own person. For the first time since the *coup d'état* France has given a sign of political vitality. The election, by three of the divisions of Paris, of General Cavaignac, the ancient rival of the Emperor for the Presidency of the Republic, and of Messrs. Goudchaux and Carnot, two of the most eminent members of the Provisional Government of 1848, is the most remarkable event which has occurred in France since Napoleon III. ascended the throne. Much curiosity will be felt throughout Europe to learn if the circumstance will produce any effect on the policy or the position of the Emperor. Will he look upon this victory of the Republicans—for victory it is, and pregnant with victories to come—as a friendly notice that it is time to relax the rigour of his system, and to give the French the small modicum of liberty which he solemnly promised as the crown of the edifice of which he laid the foundations in blood? Or will he consider it an act of hostility, and so tighten his grip upon the popular throat as to prevent even

a cry or a groan for freedom? To us outsiders, who watch the evolutions of the great game which the French are playing, it seems that one or other of these results must inevitably follow. To restore the *status quo ante* is impossible. With such men in his *Corps Legislatif*, Napoleon III. must either give the French a greater degree of liberty or abridge the little liberty which they have. The Empire has entered upon a new phase of its existence, and the whole world will watch its progress.

Hitherto the Emperor has been all-powerful. If it had been his will and pleasure to nominate his *Corps Legislatif* for life, or during the good behaviour of its members; if he had chosen after his own election to the throne to be the sole elector as well as the sole Dictator of France, and to have abolished all other appeals to the people as useless farces or impudent interferences with his supreme authority and prerogative, there would have been no one strong enough to prevent him. His obsequious and admiring army would have approved and aided him; Paris would have sulkily and reluctantly, and the provinces patiently and stolidly, acquiesced in the decision; his puppets would have danced on the wires set in motion by his foot; and his clerks would have drawn their wages and registered his decrees with the docility befitting the model servants of the model despotism. But the Emperor did not choose to do this. He allowed the French a modicum of liberty; and at the first favourable opportunity a portion of the metropolis has taken advantage of the concession to throw in among the Imperial clerks, three men whose names are identified with a different system, and with the remembrances of the greater liberty so lately enjoyed by the nation.

The Emperor has exhibited in his remarkable career many proofs of greatness and wisdom. The time seems approaching when he must display these qualities in circumstances very different from those which have hitherto called them forth, if he would escape many serious dangers. He is still the most popular man in France; he is still at the head of an obedient and numerous army, whose glories and hopes are intimately connected with the name he bears, and the pretensions which he has set up; he is still the Elect of millions of the French peasantry; and in the powerful position of one whose opponents have no claims upon the French people which are not either ridiculous or obsolete, or both combined. Having allowed the people comparative liberty of election, he can afford to respect the choice which they have made, and to see without terror a minority of Republicans in his mock Legislature. The Chamber may be less slavish than the last; but he has a large majority, and may work the State machine as before, and perhaps more easily, if he be wise enough to relax, in ever so small a degree, the stringency of the system which he established, and which he has hitherto so unflinchingly maintained.

But, difficult as may be the part which the Emperor will have to play, that which the successful Republican candidates will have to play will be more difficult still. They cannot by the Constitution, which is their sole title to seats in the *Corps Legislatif*, exercise their functions until they take the oaths of allegiance to the Emperor. Will they take those oaths? We expect they will, for political oaths among our neighbours are glibly taken and easily broken, or Napoleon III. would not at this moment be Emperor of the French. If they do not take them their election is null, the Emperor triumphs, and the Liberal party is checked and loses its opportunity. If they take them they are the sworn servants of the Empire, within the limits of the Constitution; and if they attempt to overthrow it will incur the penalties of treason and of perjury at the hands of a man who is not likely to be merciful towards them. If between them and the Empire there is mortal antagonism, they will have much to do before they can imitate the Emperor's example in the *coup d'état*, and prevent treason from being treasonable by making it successful. In the meantime, whatever be the groove in which Necessity or Policy may force them to run, the Emperor has all the advantage of the position; and, by knowing how to yield, may lay the foundations of his throne far deeper than he could lay them by ultra-democracy. All experience shows that thrones supported by the respect of the people are far more secure than those which depend upon corruption like that of Louis Philippe, or upon force and corruption like that which was inaugurated in 1852, and which has now received its first warning. The French are not naturally a corrupt people. It was the shameless corruption of Louis Philippe that brought him to ruin; and it is the shameless corruption of the jobbers, the parasites, and the knaves who surround the Emperor that has perhaps had a greater effect in procuring the return of Messrs. Cavaignac, Goudchaux, and Carnot, as living protests against it, than any mere preference for a Republican over an Imperial form of government.

THE constitution of the Medical Profession seems labouring under a most painful and distressing malady, which is apparently beyond the skill of the most eminent of the faculty. All agree that the patient is really ill, the constitution radically bad, but how to effect a cure is the difficult problem. Each doctor offers an opposite opinion to the rest, is perfectly satisfied that his proposal is the most suitable, while the treatment actually attempted proves ineffectual and abortive in the issue, and the patient is left in a worse condition than before.

Session after Session of past years has some bill been brought before the notice of Parliament to alter and amend the laws regulating the medical profession, and as often have they all shared the same fate, and been rejected. Such results seem entirely attributable to the conflicting interests of the existing licensing bodies, each of which is separately determined to yield up none of its privileges, however much such disinterestedness might conduce to the public good. The question of medical legislation is, we opine, of equal importance to the public as to the profession, and we notice the matter here to draw the attention of our readers to the debate which is expected on Wednesday next, the day appointed for the second reading of two rival medical bills, introduced respectively by Mr. Headlam and Lord Elcho.

The history of the contention would seem to be somewhat as follows:—In the time of the Tudors, only the Universities gave degrees in medicine; but, these being the days of special privileges and exclusive guilds, a society of physicians obtained a Royal

charter which empowered them to prevent all physicians practising in London, and within seven miles thereof, who had not submitted themselves to their examination. The charter thus granted is still in force, but is near the time of its expiration, and it is thus necessary for the College of Physicians to apply for new powers by Royal charter. Before accepting a new charter, however, it has been deemed advisable by the College to procure a Parliamentary measure which should extend its present local power to the provinces, and so swamp the Universities. To effect this a bill was introduced by Mr. Headlam in the Session of 1856, the object of which was to compel all English physicians to join the London College. Parliament, however, regarded this rather as an extension of a monopoly than a measure of reform, and referred the bill to a Select Committee. The Committee, in its turn, framed a bill on the basis of Mr. Headlam's, but produced it too late in the Session for further progress. In the present Parliamentary Session Mr. Headlam again introduces his bill, with its former objectionable clauses, while Lord Elcho, in opposition, calls upon the House to adopt the bill of its own Committee and pass it into law.

So far as the public is concerned the matter of medical reform seems simple enough. All it asks is that a good and equal education shall be required for all practitioners of medicine and surgery; and that a register shall be published consisting of a list of all such practitioners as have submitted to some fair test of efficiency, and which may be readily available for the use of the public. These requisites are provided by the bill of the Select Committee, which suggests one form of admission for all practitioners, the board of examiners for the license being taken equally from the Universities and Corporations. After successfully passing this examining board the candidate is eligible for registration, and may begin practice as a general practitioner of medicine and surgery; or, should he desire to limit his practice to any special department, he is left at liberty still further to pursue his studies, with the view of obtaining honorary distinctions, by allying himself with a College or University, as he thinks fit. All subsequent to the minimum examination is optional. An equal education for all practitioners is thus provided for up to a certain point, a measure which seems to be as much in consonance with the principles of Free-trade as is consistent with the public safety.

In simplicity and efficiency we think Lord Elcho's scheme superior to the more complicated one of Mr. Headlam, which proposes an entirely different education for surgeons and physicians, although manifestly the duties of both are most closely connected; and, further, Mr. Headlam's bill seems to connive at increased power on the part of the close bodies, without providing for the reform in their constitution which is so much recognised.

Fears have been expressed by those interested in retaining the existing form of things that such a scheme as Lord Elcho's would depress the standard of medical education, and that few men would be willing to educate themselves further than the legal enactment required. We apprehend that this fear is groundless, and that practitioners enough would be found ready, voluntarily, to join those Colleges and Universities whose diploma confers an honorary distinction. The predilection of the public for superior men will of itself favour this spirit of emulation, and a new stimulus will thus be given to improved requirements on the part of existing bodies. At first sight there is one grave objection to Lord Elcho's bill—that it gives the nomination of the regulating council to the Crown. Gladly would we see the power of regulating itself placed in the hands of a profession so enlightened as that of Medicine, but, until the corporations are reformed by a franchise, and truly represent the interests of the profession at large, we believe the nomination of council will be best after the plan of Lord Elcho; and it will be at least amenable to the country through Parliament. Freedom of thought and action in all matters of opinion we hold to be indispensable to the true progress of a liberal profession; and, although heterodoxies will creep in, we would prefer trusting to an improved education to show the just relation between cause and effect rather than to any penal clauses for this purpose.

We hope that the present Session of Parliament will not terminate without putting an end to this long-vaed question; and trust that such enactments may come into force as will tend to raise the status of a noble profession, without reference to the supposed interests of the few, and that the public will, in a greater degree than the profession, reap the benefit of any such measure in the advance of Science, and its adaptation to the many "ills that flesh is heir to."

THE WELLINGTON MONUMENT.—On Saturday last a ship arrived from Italy with a whole cargo of models, which were sent into Westminster Hall on Monday. The whole of the area lately used for the display of the designs for the new offices will be appropriated to the exhibition of the sculptures, with the exception of the walls, upon which the designs of the successful competitors in the previous exhibition will be hung. The monuments will be erected on platforms, in rows, in such manner as to admit of each of them being advantageously seen on every side. The entire space, it is expected, will be filled with the exhibition—which it is expected will be opened next week—will be confined for the first three days to members of the Legislature, and afterwards thrown open to the public, remaining open for three weeks or a month.

MEMORIAL TO LORD CLIVE.—A meeting was held on Tuesday at Willis's Rooms to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Plassey, and for the purpose of initiating a movement for erecting a memorial of the great Lord Clive, the founder of the British empire in the East, have not been commemorated by any public monument, it is in the opinion of this meeting (assembled on the 100th anniversary of the victory of Plassey) desirable to record the national gratitude for those services, by erecting a statue on some conspicuous site in Shrewsbury, the chief town of Lord Clive's native country. A committee of influential noblemen and gentlemen was appointed "to promote subscriptions and to take such other steps as they may deem proper in aid of the Clive memorial."

THE EUPHRATES VALLEY RAILWAY.—A numerous and influential deputation, headed by the Earl of Shaftesbury, waited upon Lord Palmerston on Monday, at Cambridge House, to impress upon his Lordship the necessity of according to the Euphrates Valley Railway Company the pecuniary support of Government. The deputation pointed out the vast importance to this country of securing an alternative route to India, and the great interest generally felt throughout the country in this great undertaking, so calculated to promote commerce, civilisation, and Christianity. Lord Palmerston assured the deputation that the Government were fully alive to the great importance of the Euphrates route; that they had supported, and would continue to support it; but he could not give an opinion as to giving the guarantee on the capital without consulting his colleagues, and requested Mr. Andrew to put his proposition in writing, and that it should have a proper amount of consideration, and that Government would be happy to aid it in their power.

REVISION OF THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.—A petition is about to be presented to Parliament praying for a commission to modify and arrange the services, so as to render them more profitable for the religious instruction and edification of the people.—Cambridge Independent Press.

THE COURT.

The most remarkable and gratifying feature in Court life during the past few days has been the extraordinary attendance at her Majesty's Levee, briefly noticed in our last impression. This reception was more fully attended than any former Court at St. James's since her Majesty's accession, with the exception of the first Levee held by the Queen on coming to the throne. Her Majesty commenced the reception at two o'clock, and the gentlemen attending continued passing uninterruptedly for the space of two hours and three-quarters. The presentations on this occasion exceeded 600.

On Monday the Queen drove out with the Princess Royal and Prince Frederick William of Prussia. In the evening her Majesty gave a dinner party, at which the Duchess of Kent and the Archduke Maximilian of Austria were present.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Drawingroom at St. James's Palace; and in the evening, accompanied by the Archduke Maximilian and the Prince Frederick William, honoured the Princess's Theatre with her presence.

On Wednesday the Queen gave a State Ball at Buckingham Palace.

On Thursday the Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace.

On Friday the Queen distributed the "Order of Valour," in Hyde-park, in the presence of many thousands of spectators. There were only sixty-two recipients present.

THE DRAWINGROOM.

The Queen held a Drawingroom in St. James's Palace on Tuesday afternoon. The ladies, upon their arrival, were conducted up the staircase to seats in Queen Anne's Room, which was divided, and afforded seats for fifty in each division. The two adjoining ante-rooms were filled, each containing seats for fifty. The grand chamber to the east of the top of the staircase was filled; and the remainder of the company were ushered to seats in the Banquet-room, the most capacious saloon of the Palace. The company having the privilege of the *entrée* passed, as usual, into the Portrait Gallery and the Drawingroom.

Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal, arrived from Buckingham Palace, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting. Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge, his Imperial Highness the Archduke Maximilian of Austria, their Royal Highnesses Prince Frederick William of Prussia, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Meiningen were present, with their attendants in waiting. Their Serene Highnesses Prince Frederick of Holstein and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar also attended the Drawingroom.

The Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers were first introduced, and then the general circle.

The Queen wore a train of black silk, trimmed with ruches of crape and bunches of black flowers, made in feathers; the body ornamented with diamonds. The petticoat black silk; with a tunic of black crape, and bunches of black flowers in feathers. A diadem of diamonds and opals, with black feathers, formed her Majesty's head-dress.

The Princess Royal wore a train of white glacé silk, trimmed with crape and bugles. Petticoat of the same material, and trimmed to correspond. Ornaments, pearls. A wreath of white flowers formed her Royal Highness's head-dress.

The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a train of bleech glacé silk, trimmed with crape, bugles, and bunches of flowers, and bleech grass. The body ornamented to match. The petticoat, two skirts of black crape, the under trimmed with bouillonnées of crape and black ribbon; the upper skirt richly trimmed with bugles. Pearl necklace and earrings. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was composed of black feathers, a black tulie veil with jet, and a diamond tiara.

THE STATE BALL.

The Queen gave a State Ball on Wednesday evening, to which were invited the Royal family, illustrious foreign visitors, the whole of the diplomatic corps, the Cabinet Ministers, and the principals of the public departments, with their wives and daughters; the ladies and gentlemen of the household of the Queen, the Prince, and the members of the Royal family, and a very numerous party of the nobility and gentry; the total invitations amounting to above 1900.

For this reception the suite of State rooms at Buckingham Palace were opened, comprising the ball and concert room, the promenade-gallery, the approach-gallery, the State dinner-room, the old ball-room, the saloon, the white drawing-room, and the picture-gallery. Beautiful and rare shrubs and plants in flower, in great variety, were tastefully arranged in the dinner-room and the other apartments, and the large recesses on each side of the grand staircase were also entirely filled with flowering plants of great beauty.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were accompanied to the ball and concert room by her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, his Imperial Highness the Archduke Maximilian of Austria, their Royal Highnesses the Duchess and Princess Mary of Cambridge, Prince Frederick William of Prussia, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Meiningen.

The Queen wore a dress of white silk covered with crape, and three tunics, trimmed with white fringe and white flowers, with silver-frosted leaves, ornamented with pearls. Her Majesty's head-dress was composed of pearls and white flowers.

The Princess Royal wore a white crape dress over a rich white glacé silk, laced up with bunches of roses. The body and sleeves ornamented with pearls. The head-dress, a wreath of white roses.

The Duchess of Cambridge wore a black crape dress, trimmed with violets, studded with diamonds. Pearl necklace and earrings. Head-dress, a tiara of pearls and black feathers.

The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a double skirt of white crape over a rich glacé petticoat. The under skirt was trimmed with bouillonnées and white ribbon; the upper skirt was trimmed with ruches of white silk and crape and bunches of white acacia; body trimmed with pearls; a stomacher of pearls and diamonds. Head-dress, bunches of white acacia and diamond roses.

Weppert's quadrille band of forty-five performers was stationed in the ball and concert room, and played a selection of quadrilles, waltzes, and galops.

Refreshments were served to the company in the green drawing-room during the evening.

His Imperial Highness the Archduke Maximilian of Austria, attended by Count Zechy, Baron Hadik, Captain Wisslack, Dr. Trogher, and Lord Charles Fitzroy, went on Wednesday morning to the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. His Imperial Highness returned to Buckingham Palace shortly before two o'clock in the afternoon, and afterwards paid visits to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent and the other members of the Royal family, at their residences, and took leave of their Royal Highnesses, on his departure for the Continent.

His Royal Highness Prince Frederick William of Prussia honoured the Prussian Minister and Countess Bernstoff with his presence on Tuesday evening, at Prussia House. A brilliant circle of the court were invited to meet his Royal Highness.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry left town on Wednesday morning for the Continent.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—Archdeaconry: The Rev. S. Gilson to Montreal, and to be Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of that diocese.—Honorary Canonry: Worshipful Charles J. Burton, of the diocese of Carlisle, to the Cathedral Church of that diocese.—Rectories: Rev. C. Phipps Eyre to Marylebone; Rev. W. Adley to Rudbaxton, Pembrokeshire; Rev. W. T. H. Eales to Yealmpton, Devon; Rev. F. C. Halsted, to Biddenham, Somerset; Rev. W. S. Hampson to Stobton, Lincolnshire.—Vicarages: Rev. J. D. Addison to Fleet, Dorset; Rev. W. B. Doerton to Spreyton, Devon; Rev. E. J. Baines to Stillingfleet, Yorkshire; Rev. J. Cooper to Garton-on-the-Wolds, Yorkshire; Rev. G. H. Law to Locking, Somerset; Rev. H. Roberts to Curry Rivell, Somerset; Rev. G. W. Spooner to Inglesham, Wilts.—Perpetual Curacies: Rev. H. A. Fielden to Smallwood, Cheshire; Rev. X. N. Paszkowicz, to Horrington, and Chaplain of the Somerset County Lunatic Asylum.—Curacies: Rev. Mr. Hindrey to Woodborough, Devon; Rev. E. T. Stratton Fowler to St. Jude's, Nottingham.—Incumbencies: Rev. J. Eddowes to St. Jude's, Bradford, Yorkshire; Rev. S. J. Watson to Shepley, Yorkshire; Rev. F. G. White to be Principal of the Diocesan Collegiate School, Woodlands, Cape Town, South Africa.

CONVOCATION.—On Saturday afternoon last the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy of the province of Canterbury assembled at Westminster, for the purpose of proceeding to Buckingham Palace, in order to present to her Majesty an address upon the opening of the new Convocation. The Upper House assembled at Queen Anne's Bounty Office, Dean's-yard; and the Lower House in the Jerusalem Chambers. From those places they went in carriages to the palace. On being ushered into the presence of her Majesty the Archbishop of Canterbury read the address. Her Majesty thanked the Archbishop, the Bishops, and the clergy for their loyal and dutiful address, and the members of both Houses of Convocation then withdrew.

THE COMMEMORATION AT OXFORD.—The Encænia, or Commemoration of Founders and Benefactors to this University, took place on Wednesday morning in the Sheldonian Theatre. As soon as the gates were opened, the undergraduates rushed to the upper galleries and commenced their usual demonstrations in favour or against every available personage and subject, the ladies, masters, strangers, &c., having in the meantime taken possession of their allotted places. The first cry of "The Queen" excited the most deafening shouts; while "The Ladies," "Prince Albert," "The Princess Royal," "The Prince of Prussia," and "The Bishop of Oxford," the next in order, were welcomed with tremendous cheering. The fine-toned organ intimated the entrance of the

Vice-Chancellor, noblemen, heads of houses, doctors, proctors, &c., who were most heartily received. The National Anthem was then sung with great effect by the whole assemblage, consisting of upwards of 2000 persons. The Vice-Chancellor opened the business of convocation by submitting the names of the distinguished individuals proposed to be admitted to the honorary degree of D.C.L., who were called to their degree in the following order:—Major-General Sir Colin Campbell, G.C.B.; Major-General Sir W. Fenwick Williams of Kars, Bart, R.A., K.C.B.; his Excellency Baron Hochschild, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of Sweden; his Excellency George M. Dallas, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of North America; the Right Hon. the Earl of Powis; the Right Hon. Sir George Cornewall Lewis, Bart, K.C.B.; the Right Hon. Sir John M'Neill, K.C.B.; Sir Charles Nicholson, Provost of the University of Sydney, New South Wales; Thomas H. S. Sotheron Estcourt, Esq., M.P.; Robert Stephenson, Esq., M.P., F.R.S.; Isambard K. Brunel, Esq., F.R.S.; Gustave F. Waagen, Ph.D., Director of the Royal Museum of Pictures at Berlin; Dr. Livingstone, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society; Dr. William Farr, F.R.S. The reception given to Sir W. F. Williams was most enthusiastic, for the building rang with rounds of cheers for several minutes. Sir Colin Campbell, Sir John M'Neill, Mr. R. Stephenson, Mr. Brunel, and Dr. Livingstone were also received in a very manner—Dr. Livingstone carrying off the lion's share.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The examination for the degree of Doctor of Laws in this University will commence on Thursday, July 2; that for Bachelor of Medicine on Monday, August 3; that for Bachelor of Arts on Monday, October 6; and that for Doctor of Medicine on Monday, November 23. There will be a second examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine in November.

CONSECRATION OF ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, WESTMINSTER-ROAD.—The consecration of the newly-created church in the Westminster-road, Lambeth, dedicated to St. Thomas, was performed by the Bishop of Winchester on Wednesday. The estimated cost of the church is £375, and it will accommodate 1033 persons, with 809 seats for the poor. There is also to be a parsonage, which will cost £1046. The deficiency in the funds amounts to £130.

A NEW CHURCH IN ST. MARYLEBONE.—The first stone of a new church, on the site of Calmel-buildings, abutting on Orchard-street—to which adistrict to be called Christ Church, Portman-square, has been assigned under the provisions of Lord Blandford's Act—was laid by the Lord Bishop of the diocese on Tuesday afternoon.

SNOWFIELDS SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PREACHING STATION.—On Wednesday, in Melior-street, St. Olave's, Southwark, the foundation-stone of new buildings for this institution was laid by Wm. Pritchard, Esq., High Bailiff of Southwark, in the presence of a large assemblage of persons, including Rear-Admiral Vernon Harcourt, who attended to fulfil if necessary the duties of the High Bailiff; he having signified his fear of being hindered from attending. The High Bailiff, however, arrived shortly after the proceedings had commenced. The children belonging to the school having sung a hymn, prayer was offered by the Rev. H. J. Betts, after which the honorary secretary read a paper detailing the history of the institution since its commencement in a little cottage in 1848. This document was then put into a bottle, and deposited by Admiral Harcourt in the stone. He then delivered an address, and introduced the High Bailiff. The meeting was further addressed by Mr. Arthur Sperling, barrister, and the Rev. Wm. Tyler, of Mile-end. The ceremony was then proceeded with, and the stone duly laid by the High Bailiff, who spoke very highly of the institution, and urged its claims upon all present. The meeting concluded with prayer. A number of friends then adjourned to the Bridge House Hotel, to a cold collation, where addresses were afterwards delivered by the Rev. John Waddington, Rev. James Malcolm, Mr. N. Eastly, and other gentlemen. Several donations were announced. The buildings are to be erected by Messrs. Coleman, of Weston-street, at a cost of £600, and will consist of school-room and school-house, the latter including separate rooms for library, committee, and other purposes.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—MEETING AT LINCOLN'S INN.

On Saturday last a meeting took place, for the purpose of collecting funds for the completion of King's College Hospital, in the New Hall, Lincoln's Inn—the benchers of the society having kindly allowed the use of that hall for the purpose. The chair was taken shortly after two o'clock by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who was attended by the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Oxford, Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood, the Earl of Harrowby, and a number of other noblemen and gentlemen. The hall was well filled by a great number of visitors, the principal part of whom consisted of ladies. Excellent addresses in behalf of the charity were given by the Duke of Cambridge, the Bishops of Oxford and St. Asaph, the Earl of Harrowby, and others. Sir W. Page Wood, in the course of his remarks, said: Without entering into statistics, they must all know what it was to deal with such a population as that existing between Holborn and the Thames, amounting to 400,000. Their hospital had given relief to 1400 in-patients, and 20,000 cases of sickness out of doors, in the last year. During the same time the applications for admission into the hospital were 125 more than in the year previous. To provide for those who were now excluded by the narrowness of the institution they were called there that day—called by the committee to which he did not belong, and of whom he could; therefore, speak in the terms of commendation they merited. The committee did not ask them to take upon themselves a burden which they declined themselves, for they had already contributed £10,000 towards the sum that was wanted (Hear.) The amount required to carry out the object was £50,000. The total list of contributions was announced to be £15,000. After the National Anthem had been sung by the choir, the company retired, and a collection was made at the doors of the hall. The usual routine of public business was departed from on this occasion in a very agreeable manner by the introduction of music of a very choice kind performed by the gentlemen and boys who formed the excellent choir of Lincoln's Inn.

LONDON COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS.—On Saturday evening last (being the anniversary of the establishment of this institution) a public dinner was held at the Freemasons' Hall. This college was incorporated a few years back for the purpose of affording the public some protection against the pretensions of ignorant persons, who, having tried and failed in every other calling, set themselves up for schoolmasters, without having any of the requisite qualifications. The means provided were a system of public examinations and certificates; and the possession of a certificate from the college was a guarantee to the extent therein set forth of the bearer's fitness for the duties of a tutor. The scheme was originated by Mr. John Parker, a schoolmaster of Brighton; and the chief object of the meeting on Saturday was to present to that gentleman a testimonial of the great benefits derived from the college, both by the public, and by the great body of schoolmasters generally. Mr. Eady presented Mr. Parker with a purse, containing one hundred guineas; and said he hoped to see the time when Mr. Parker's services would be recognised in a more liberal form. During the past three weeks about 2400 pupils at schools have undergone the examination of the college, of whom 460 have received honour certificates. The fact of so few receiving certificates is sufficient evidence of the strictness and integrity of the examinations.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.—The annual meeting of this college took place on Wednesday, at the institution, Harley-street, under the presidency of the visitor, the Bishop of London. The proceedings commenced with the reading of a report by the dean of the college, the Rev. E. H. Plumptire, which gave a history of the formation of the institution during the past academical year, from which it appeared that the education, tone, and discipline of the pupils were maintained with unimpaired efficiency. Sir John Forbes, M.D., bore testimony, as a member of the council, to the efficiency of the lady residents, the abilities of the professors, the good habits and manners of the pupils, and the zeal and assiduity of the committee of education.

A GAMING TRANSACTION.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, the case Sidebottom *v.* Atkins came before Lord Campbell and a special jury. The plaintiff was the son of a wealthy Manchester mill-owner, named Sidebottom; the defendant was one Adkins, late keeper of the Berkeley Club, in Albemarle-street, Piccadilly. By the action it was sought to recover £652, lost by the plaintiff to the defendant at play. The plaintiff, in his account of his indiscretions, stated that on the first occasion he played he lost £800. On no occasion did he leave off a winner, to his recollection: altogether he lost £25,000. The stakes played for were usually £25; on one occasion £100. Thos. Edw. Cockin, who was examined during the trial, admitted that he had been employed by the defendant to act as "bonnet," his duties being to sit at the table well dressed, and play as if he were a stranger. At the close of the evidence the defendant's counsel offered to consent to a verdict for the amount claimed, and to give up all the securities which he held of the plaintiff. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, attended by Mr. Gibbs, his tutor, was on the bench during this trial, in which he appeared to take a lively interest. Mr. James, in his opening address, attempted to "improve" the occasion by reading a lesson to the Prince of Wales against gaming; but he was checked by a gentle but impressive shake of Lord Campbell's head.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—Wednesday having been appointed for the examination of the directors of this bank, the Court of Bankruptcy was crowded. Mr. Huddleston addressed the Court at great length on the *ad vice* of Mr. Stapleton, suggesting that the examination should be adjourned *sine die*; and several gentlemen spoke on behalf of the other directors. His honour (Commissioner Holroyd) ordered the directors to file their balance-sheets on or before the 1st of September; and the dividend meeting was adjourned till the 23rd of the same month. The funds at present in hand will, it is estimated, pay one shilling in the pound. Mr. Linklater stated that all the directors except one had been arrested.

CHELSEA NEW BRIDGE TOLL.

GREAT OPEN-AIR DEMONSTRATION AGAINST IT.

A meeting was held on Thursday on the space of ground at the foot of the new Chelsea Suspension-bridge, to take steps to procure the abolition of the proposed toll over the new bridge. The meeting, which consisted of upwards of six thousand persons, was presided over by Sir John Shelley, M.P., supported by General Sir De Lacy Evans, M.P., Mr. Alcock, M.P., Lord Robert Grosvenor, and several of the clergy and influential people of the neighbourhood. Letters approving of the object of the meeting, and expressive of regret at their inability to attend, were received from several members of Parliament. Among others were the following from Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., the Chairman, and Mr. Watkin, M.P., member, of the Committee of the Toll Reform Association:—

June 25, 1857.
Dear Sir—I regret exceedingly I shall not be able to attend the meeting at Chelsea. I must be in the House of Commons to vote on the Oaths Bill. You will, I am sure, express the sympathy of our Society in favour of all attempts to free bridges and roads from the imposts now so unjustly and inconveniently levied. I consider tolls raised on foot passengers even worse than carriages and horses, as it so immediately affects the interests of the working classes. It is barbarous to make the weary workman go perhaps two miles round to his home, because he is desitute of a penny or halfpenny. The tolls on horses and carts must also prevent the free interchange of commodities, and press with peculiar hardship on the working classes. It will, as our secretary, therefore, announce our sincere sympathy with the objects of the meeting.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
J. E. Bradfield, Esq.

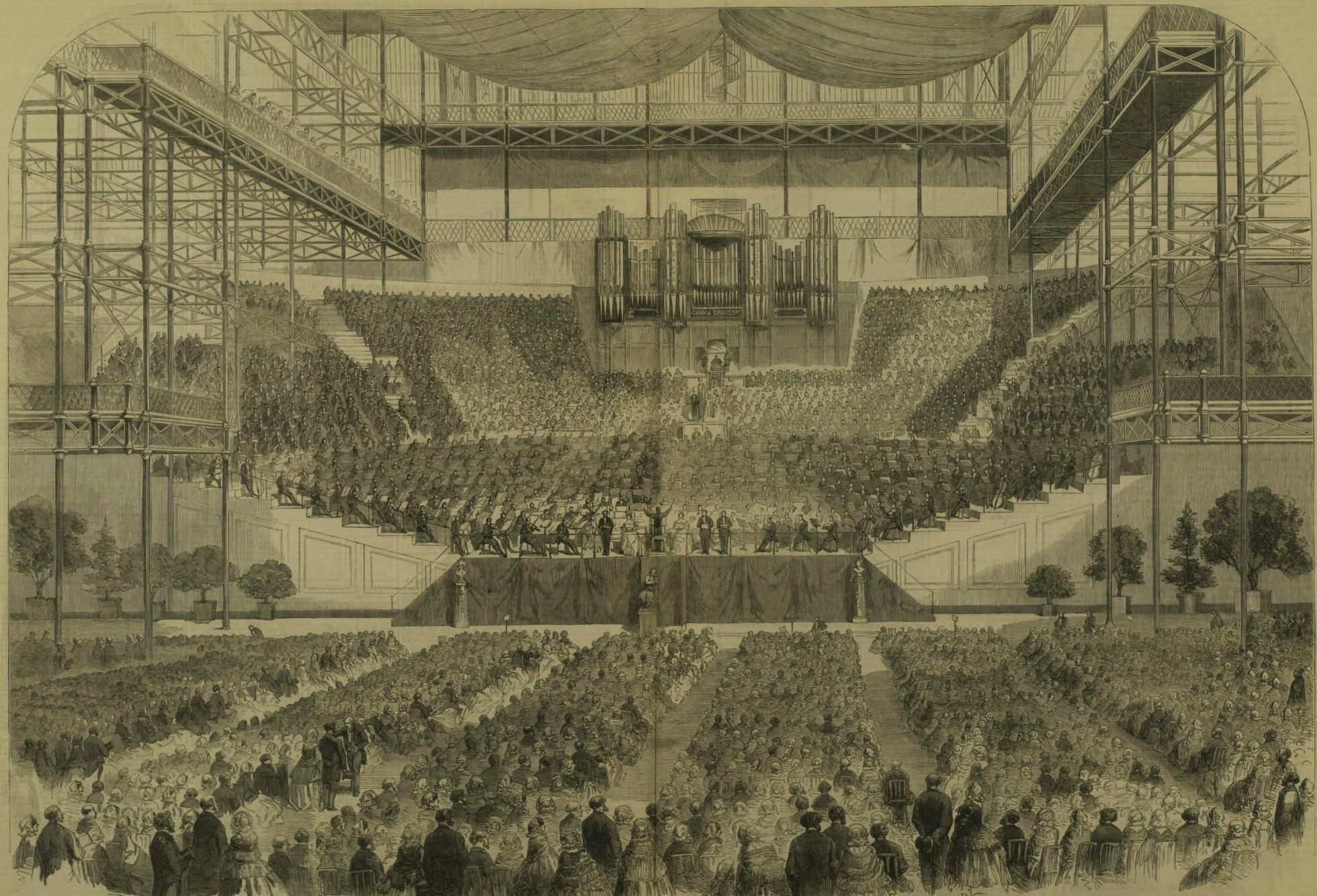
HERBERT INGRAM.

Dear Sir—I shall endeavour to get down to your meeting before its close, in order to testify by my presence, how strongly I feel the importance of abolishing all impediments to free access to the park on the part of the labouring people. The poor man's health is his capital; and I know no greater or more injurious interference with the "rights of property" than that involved in taxing the workman and his children for the privilege of inhaling the pure air of the atmosphere of various streets of necessity wastes and undermines.

The Secretary. Yours faithfully, EDWARD W. WATKIN.

Sir John Shelley, M.P., in commencing the business of the meeting, stated that the object for which they were met was one which had justice and common sense in its favour; and he could honestly say that it had never been his good fortune to take an active part in anything in which he felt more conscientiously convinced that he was taking the right course than upon this occasion (Hear). The Government of the country, acting upon the report of certain commissioners, were wise enough to provide for the working classes of this district a park in which they could go and enjoy themselves, obtain health and recreation, and get away from the crowded streets and lanes of our great metropolis. But, having provided the park, the Government had built a bridge to enable those living on the north side of the Thames to reach it; but they had put a toll on the bridge which would effectually debar the working classes from using the park (A voice, "They shan't do it"). The park on the other side of the river was laid out at a cost of something like £300,000, and the reason which induced the House to lay out that sum of money was that large masses of her Majesty's subjects, now for weeks together pent up in the close streets and alleys of this metropolis, would be provided with healthful recreation and enjoyment. But it was most absurd that, while a sum of £300,000 had been expended upon the park, a toll should be put upon the bridge which would prevent the working man with his wife and family from enjoying the benefits of that park. They were met to protest against such a system, and it would not be difficult to show special reasons in favour of taking off the proposed toll. Mr. Page had stated in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons that the bridge would afford accommodation for 180,000 persons; and Mr. Penne-thorne stated that the land, which sold in 1835 at from £60 to £70 per acre, he had estimated at from £250 to £300; and as there were from ninety to 100 acres yet unsold by the Government, it was clear that the effect of constructing the bridge, and of making it toll free, would be to confer an increased value of the land, considerably more than the amount to be derived from the toll levied upon the working classes (Hear, hear). With respect to tolls generally they were undoubtedly great nuisances, and he regarded the present movement against the toll on this bridge as the commencement of the success of a great principle which would not fail to produce beneficial effects on the whole metropolis and the country at large (Cheers).

General Sir De Lacy Evans stated that the Government of Sir Robert Peel had been induced to undertake the building upon the assurance that ultimately it would entail no loss upon the national exchequer. This promise would be more than realised by the sale of the land adjoining the park, some of which had already been sold at tenfold and upwards of its original cost (Hear, hear). A very small sum would be sufficient to keep the bridge in repair; and, he had no doubt, when the subject was properly laid before Parliament, the Government would see the justice and propriety of not retaining the toll on the bridge. There was no country in the world where a man was so frequently stopped on the roads and asked to put his hand into his pocket as England; and he felt confident that no



THE GREAT HANDEL FESTIVAL AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY NEGRETTI AND ZAMBRA.—(SEE PAGE 649)

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

MORE Royal visitors. The Duke and Duchess of Montpensier (whose names remind Europe of a stroke of what was called policy on the part of King Louis Philippe—policy which conducted its contriver to no better success than is, finally, thanks to the justice of Providence, allotted to most wicked contrivances) have arrived among us. Her Majesty continues to hold public receptions, and in every way to endeavour to make the season as useful as possible to those classes of her subjects who expected to suffer by the Parliamentary interregnum. The most graceful ceremonial of the year, the distribution of the Order of Merit, on Friday, has naturally excited the utmost interest in all classes; and the new Chevaliers de Bronze are envied by their less fortunate, because less adventurous, brethren in arms. The ceremony has commanded the respectful attention of every party, the spiteful peacemongers excepted.

The Lords have passed the Divorce Bill; several attempts to make it less valuable than it is having been defeated by large majorities, and the Bishop of Oxford's final protest against the third reading having produced no effect. It should be observed, however, that, no matter what may be thought of the arguments with which various noblemen lay and spiritual, have met the measure, it has been discussed fully, gravely, and fairly, and with a due sense of its importance. The manipulation which it has undergone at the hands of the first lawyers in the kingdom will probably compel its respectful treatment at the hands of the "rising barristers" in the Commons; and, the question of principle having been considered in that House in previous Sessions, there seems no reason for any great delay in passing the bill. Government was less fortunate in the debate on the second reading of the Ministers' Money Bill in the Lords; the Earl of Derby (with a pleasing forgetfulness that he was an uncompromising Church reformer a few years ago) having attacked the measure with all his might, and having a majority of Peers with him. He was repulsed by the aid of proxies, but only by five, and the majority was so small that some people incline to think the Conservative Lords had no intention of beating the Government, or they could have brought up at least five additional votes known to be at hand. The same night the Government was actually outnumbered in the Commons on the question of the National Survey, and the map—so coveted by landed proprietors, especially in Scotland—being constructed on the twenty-six inch scale, was prohibited by the House. Government had intended to ask for £50,000 to help the inhabitants of the Finsbury district to a park, much needed by the dwellers in that crowded, and in parts very unhealthy, locality; but the metropolitan representatives of districts that have got their parks organised an opposition, of which Mr. Williams, of Lambeth (the most narrow-minded man in the House), was the mouthpiece, and the cuckoo cry against general taxation for metropolitan improvement prevailed. Mr. Williams had previously added to his notoriety by resisting a demand for money to keep Hampton Court—the delight of millions of the humbler classes—in repair. A constituency that twice returns such a representative has really established no bad claim to a place in Schedule A of the Reform Bill of 1858.

The Oaths Bill has been made somewhat more palatable to the House of Lords by the introduction, with Government sanction, of clauses interdicting Jews from holding the office of guardians or justices of the United Kingdom, or Regents, or Chancellor, or Keeper, or Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, or any office in an Ecclesiastical Court. The logic of such clauses is not very transparent. It is possible to comprehend the argument of those who are willing to permit the Hebrew to execute the law, but refuse to intrust him with the making it; but why the Commons, inviting the Jew to aid in law-making, should forbid him to act as the creature and mere executant of law, is one of those puzzles which meet one at every turn in the history of the Hebrew emancipation. Those who affect to be well informed upon the subject allege that the Lords do not intend to be pacified with this bit of exclusion; and that the division on Ministers' Money indicates what, when a dearer and safer bit of bigotry is to be tried, the Conservative Peerage can do. As Lord Palmerston will not resign should the bill be rejected, Lord Derby, in defeating it, will not be exposed to his one dreaded danger—the chance of having to make a Ministry out of Malmesburs, Disraelis, Henleys, and Newdegates. A man who has to make bricks with such straw should have more sympathy for the descendants of those who had, perhaps, the easier task of making bricks without any straw at all.

Prince Albert's admirable speech at the opening of the Educational Conference will be read with real gratification. Is it indeed a new era when a Prince Consort, husband of the first Sovereign in the world, attends a public meeting to enunciate sentiments like those delivered by his Royal Highness on Monday. He rightly and simply pointed out that the one course for all of us, whatever be our separate views on education, is to do our utmost to create an irresistible public feeling in favour of education itself, the necessity for which is languidly admitted, rather than earnestly felt, by thousands, before whose eyes, nevertheless, come, day after day, the most overwhelming proofs of the deficiency of our social system in this one grand essential and element of healthy life.

Various trials have shown vice its own image in various mirrors. In a gambling case, or rather one in which a young man had been the victim of swindling, the jury gave him a verdict for £6520, which we shall be exceedingly happy to hear he has received. The Prince of Wales was present during the trial. Nearly the last, we hope, of the disgusting actions in which a husband sues for money in recompense for the loss of his wife's affections and character has also been tried. The case was not one calling for strong language in reference to the defendant, but it had one remarkable feature—by consent of counsel written evidence was taken, and the name of "a distinguished personage" was suppressed. H.R.H. the Duke in question was in no way implicated, and his character and manliness set him far above the necessity of any such management, which one may suppose was a lawyer's device. The law, as expounded by five Judges, has decided that a woman who exposes her child does not commit an assault upon it, and the conviction of a woman who took this method of getting rid of her infant has been solemnly quashed. The existence of an east-end colony of Chinese, who beg all day and debauch all night, has been established, and ladies who are so exceedingly fond of dropping papers of half-pence into the hands of the copper-coloured rascals who infest our thoroughfares should know that the indolently-conferred money—no charity—is spent in vice of which they would shudder to hear—a remark which applies to the majority of promiscuous almsgiving, now that mendicity has become one of the best London trades.

THE WOOLWICH ARTISANS.—A large batch of emigrants, composed of artisans formerly employed at Woolwich, and thrown out of work by the termination of the war, with their families, sailed on Friday evening last from Liverpool for Quebec. In the ship *Henry Cooke*, which had been chartered for the purpose. The total number of emigrants was 276, all of whom are provided with railway tickets, which will enable them to travel to Toronto, where work will be provided for them.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

LORD LONDESBOURGH's sale of yearlings may be set down as successful, as the seven averaged 120 gs., and the five West Australians of the lot 153 gs. Ticket of Leave, a stout chesnut colt by the latter horse, and a near kinsman of Stockwell and Rataplan, whom, in some points, he considerably resembles, went for 350 gs. into William Oates's stable. The Epaulette filly, after some strong competition with Mr. Saxon, fell to the Marquis Conyngham for 245 gs.; the Ennui filly, which was rather light-timed, but far the most blood-like of the lot, was bought by Boyce of Epsom for 60 gs.; and a very promising colt, Tasso, by Orlando, went for only 27 gs., owing, perhaps, to his engagements, the half-forfeits for which, after all, did not reach £100. Such are the uncertainties of horse-flesh. The stock of "the West" are well-grown and handsome, but rather disposed to be leggy, and weak in that point as well. General Peel's Messenger, who seems likely to race no more, fetched 115 gs., and his Pyrrhus the First yearling, Precursor, 210 gs. It was rumoured, we know not how correctly, that Mr. Sutton had bought the latter.

The Carlisle Meeting comes off on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the Cumberland Plate has 24 acceptances. The Chelmsford also stands for the same days; and Worcester—which is now under the able management of Mr. Webb, of "Wrestler, Wicked Eye, and War Eagle" celebrity—for Thursday and Friday. Mr. Jackson's Buckthorn colt was much fitter at Newcastle than at Newton, and he and Saunterer were both the easiest of winners. The latter seems likely, now that he is kept in regular work, to cut down nearly everything in the north, as his speed and staying powers for two miles are both undeniable. Honeystick, the first of that odd-looking animal Honeywood's stock, won the Tyro cleverly; but the Ascot Cup winner just failed by a head to give the 14 lb. to Underhand in the Northumberland Plate, and the two were a couple of lengths in advance of everything else. It is said that Skirmisher is believed by the stable, who are rarely wrong, to be 10 lb. worse than Ignoramus, which ought to be a good enough form for the latter to win the St. Leger with. Blin Bonny is no great Doncaster favourite at present, and it is rumoured that she is in foal. There are forty-five acceptances for the Goodwood Stakes, and some inquiries at 10 to 1 after the American horses for the Cup, for which Fazetto, if the ground is pretty soft, bids fair to be the principal English heavy-weight champion.

Mr. Lowndes's negotiation for the Cottesmore country has, we hear, gone off, and thus the Tilton and Owston Wood foxes are still in prospective security, and thirty surplus couples of Mr. Lowndes's present Atherstone pack in the market. Charles Barwick, who was first whip to Mr. Arkwright with the Essex; and Humphrey Neale goes to the Cambridgeshire from the Ledbury, which the master (Mr. Thackwell) will probably hunt himself.

On Monday the All England eleven play twenty-two of Loughborough, and sixteen of the University of Oxford the United All England eleven, at Lord's; while on Thursday the Marylebone Club and ground meet Haileybury (with one player), at the same spot. On the latter day the Gentlemen of England are matched against the Players, at the Oval; and on Thursday and Friday the Gentlemen of Hampshire v. the Gentlemen of Sussex issue is to be tried, at Brighton.

The City, Temple, and Strand Regatta is fixed for Monday; the London Model Yacht Club First-class Sailing Match (from Greenwich to Oven's Buoy and back to Erith), the Leander Club Oars Match (from Westminster to Putney), and the Royal Harwich Yacht Club Regatta for Tuesday; the Royal Irish Yacht Club Regatta for Tuesday and Wednesday, the Kingston-on-Thames Royal Regatta for Wednesday and Thursday, and the Royal London Yacht Club Sailing Match for Third-class Yachts (from Erith to Coal House Point and back to Greenwich) for Thursday.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE RACES.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Anne Page colt, 1. Satinstone, 2. North Derby.—Norton, 1. Commoner, 2. Members' Plate Handicap.—Courtenay, 1. Alma, 2. Selling Stakes.—Thornhill, 1. Ondine, 2. Tyro Stakes.—Honeystick, 1. The Cheery Chap, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Visitors' Stakes.—Plausible, 1. Cock Robin, 2. Her Majesty's Plate.—General Williams, 1. Sneeze, 2. Northumberland Plate.—Underhand, 1. Skirmisher, 2. Free Handicap.—Impérieuse, 1. Minnie, 2. Stand Stakes.—Saunterer, 1. Meta, 2.

THURSDAY.

Gateshead Stakes.—Saunterer walked over. Corporation Plate.—Vandal, 1. General Williams, 2. Tyne Handicap.—Courtenay, 1. La Victime, 2. Speculation Stakes.—Caliph, 1. Ondine, 2.

BIBURY CLUB RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Match.—The Flying Englishman, 1. Kilbride, 2. Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Bar One, 1. King of the Forest, 2. Bibury Stakes.—Turk, 1. Rialto, 2. Handicap Sweepstakes.—Lady Conyngham, 1. Schoolfellow, 2. Andover Stakes.—Alembic, 1. Lymington, 2. Champagne Stakes.—My Niece, 1. Haymaker, 2. Sweepstakes of 3 sovs.—Mangosteen filly, 1. Allghan, 2.

STOCKBRIDGE RACES.—THURSDAY.

Seventh Triennial Stakes.—Aleppo, 1. Rogerthorpe, 2. Stockbridge Derby.—Ignoramus, 1. Anton, 2. Ninth Triennial Stakes.—Star of the East, 1. Cyma colt, 2. Stewards' Plate.—Fisherman, 1. Polestar, 2.

CRICKET.—The match of the Marylebone Club and Ground v. University of Oxford was played on Thursday and Friday (last week), on the Magdalen Ground, Oxford. Both sides exhibited some fine play, and good scores were made; but the match was ultimately drawn, the score standing as follows:—M.C.C. and Ground, first innings, 191; second, 158: total, 349. Oxford, first innings, 212.—The match of the Etonians v. the Marylebone was played on Saturday last, in the Shooting-fields, Eton College, and ended in the Etonians gaining an easy victory. The following is the score:—Marylebone, first innings, 75; second, 72: total, 147. Etonians, first innings, 167.—On Monday and Tuesday Lord's Ground was crowded with visitors, including many of rank and fashion, to witness a match (played on both sides in first-rate style) between sixteen gentlemen of the University of Cambridge and the United All England eleven. The "United" were the victors, with two wickets to go down—the score running thus:—The Cambridge, first innings, 128; second, 46: total, 174. The "United," first innings, 82; second, 95: total, 177.—After three days' contest on the Broughton Ground, Manchester, the match of All England eleven v. twenty-two of Broughton was brought to a conclusion, on Saturday last, in favour of the eleven, they winning in one innings, with 45 runs over. The following is the score:—All England, first innings, 241; Broughton, first innings, 101; second, 95.]

THE members of the Junior United Service Club were honoured by the company of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, on Monday evening, at a splendid banquet, on the inauguration of their palatial clubhouse, in Charles-street, Waterloo-place. Covers were laid for 136 persons.

MICROSCOPIC SOIREE TO THE POOR.—On Wednesday evening, the 17th inst., a number of microscopes and stereoscopes were exhibited to the children attending the St. Botolph, Aldersgate, Sunday and Day Schools, at the Schoolhouse in Charterhouse-square, by a number of gentlemen of a Microscopic Society, who, with a liberality and kindness worthy of the highest commendation, thus afforded their poorer neighbours an intellectual treat of a description never before given them. The entertainment was very fully attended, and all (amounting to nearly 800, including visitors) were highly gratified. The entertainment was initiated by Mr. Wallford, surgeon, Aldersgate-street.

WESLEYAN METHODISM.—The present position of the Wesleyan Society—with the exception of the North Wales district, from which no return has been received—is as follows:—There are in society 263,961 members; and 17,415 are on trial. Deducting the decrease in some places—618—from the increase in others—632—there appears to have been a gain by the cause of 634 new members.

THE office for the sale of tickets for the forthcoming performances in remembrance of the late Mr. Jerrold was opened on Tuesday. The applications for tickets were most numerous, and during the day upwards of £120 was received.

THE University of Helsingfors has just lost by death a student who passed for being the senior university student in Europe. He was 71 years of age, had lived celibate, and could never be induced to quit the university—to him a true alma mater.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE VICTORIA CROSS BY HER MAJESTY, IN HYDE PARK.

OFFICIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

HORSE GUARDS, June 23, 1857.

Infantry parade to be formed at nine o'clock on Friday; cavalry and artillery at a quarter past nine o'clock; in line of contiguous columns, right in front, and at quarter distance, in the following order:—1. Horse Artillery. 2. Life Guards. 3. Dragoons. 4. Royal Engineers. 5. Foot Guards. 6. Royal Marines. 7. 79th Highlanders. 8. Rifle Brigade. 9. Artillery. 10. Military Train.

The boys of the Royal Military Asylum and the Pensioners will form on the left of the line and in front of the Military Train.

Officers and men to receive the Victoria Cross will form in line near the Centre Pavilion.

On the Queen entering at Hyde Park-corner gate a Royal salute to be fired by the batteries on the left of the line.

When the Queen has taken post in the centre the recipients to pass individually, each presenting his card to the Adjutant-General, who will name them to her Majesty. After passing, they will resume their original position.

After the distribution of the Crosses the troops will march past in open column—artillery and cavalry at a walk, the infantry in slow time.

Secondly, in quarter-distance column of troops and companies, artillery and cavalry at a trot, infantry in quick time, officers in command of regiments and brigades passing on with their respective commands. The field batteries and infantry will then resume their original position.

The Cavalry and Horse Artillery, after passing in quarter-distance column, will continue their march beyond the third wheeling point, countermarch by troops, and repass the Queen at a canter when their front is clear, wheeling when opposite to their respective original positions, and re-forming columns on their original ground.

The staff and general officers composing the Queen's cortege will form in front of, and facing, her Majesty, those preceding her Majesty on the proper left, and those following on the right, and at the distance of the front of the columns, taking care to be well clear of the flanks.

HORSE GUARDS, June 25, 1857.

The officers who are to receive the Victoria Cross from her Majesty will assemble in Hyde Park, opposite Grosvenor-gate, at nine o'clock on Friday, the 26th inst., and place themselves under the orders of Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell.

The privates who are to receive the same distinguished honour will assemble at Portman-street Barracks, and march thence at half-past eight o'clock, under the command of Lieutenant John Knox, Rifle Brigade, himself the only Victoria Cross officer who has lost a limb through his gallantry.

ADDITIONAL RECIPIENTS.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to signify her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned officers, non-commissioned officer, and men of her Majesty's army, who have been recommended to her Majesty for that decoration:—

Private Thomas Grady, 4th Regiment—For having, on the 18th October, 1854, volunteered to repair the embrasures of the Sailors' Battery on the Left Attack, and effected the same, with the assistance of one other volunteer, under a very heavy fire from a line of batteries. For gallant conduct on the 22nd November, 1854, in the repulse of the Russian attack on the advanced trench of the Left Attack, when, on being severely wounded, he refused to quit the front; encouraging, by such determined bearing, the weak force engaged with the enemy to maintain its position.

Private Samuel Evans, 19th Regiment—For volunteering to go into an embrasure, thereby rendering very great assistance in repairing damage, under a very heavy fire from the enemy. 13th April, 1855.

Colonel Collingwood Dickson, C.B., Royal Artillery—For having, on the 17th of October, 1854, when the batteries of the Right Attack had run short of powder, displayed the greatest coolness and contempt of danger, in directing the unloading of several wagons of the Field Battery, which were brought up to the trenches to supply the want; and having personally assisted in carrying the powder-barrels under a severe fire from the enemy.

Captain Gronow Davis, Royal Artillery—For great coolness and gallantry in the attack on the Redan, 8th September, 1855, on which occasion he commanded the spiking party; and after which he saved the life of Lieutenant Sanders, 30th Regiment, by jumping over the parapet of a sap, and proceeding twice some distance across the open, under a "murderous" fire to assist in conveying that officer, whose leg was broken, and who was otherwise severely wounded, under cover; and repeated this act in the conveyance of other wounded soldiers from the same exposed position.

Sergeant Daniel Cambridge, Royal Artillery—For having volunteered for the spiking party at the assault on the Redan, 8th September, 1855, and continuing therewith after being severely wounded; and for having, in the after part of the same day, gone out in front of the advanced trench, under a heavy fire, to bring in a wounded man; in performing which service he was himself severely wounded a second time.

We have reason to believe that her Majesty and the Prince took great interest in the design of this new Order of Valour, and the Cross was adopted upon their entire approval. It is made of gun-metal, from cannon taken at Sebastopol, which was sent from the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich to Mr. Hancock, of Bruton-street, by whom the Cross was designed and executed.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

A GENERAL parade of the officers and troops belonging to the Provisional Battalion at Chatham garrison took place on the Lines on Monday afternoon, where the entire battalion was drawn up, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel R. N. Phillips, for the purpose of witnessing the presentation of a silver medal, with a gratuity of £5, which had been awarded by the Duke of Cambridge to Private John Prendergast, 27th Royal Irish Fusiliers, for long service and meritorious conduct while serving with his regiment in India, whence he has recently returned. The order from his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, having been read to the assembled troops, Private Prendergast was called to the front, when the Colonel presented him with the medal in an appropriate speech.

SOME interesting trials of much importance to the naval service took place last week at Woolwich Dockyard with Dr. Brown's patent masthead and paddlebox lamps. On Friday evening, at 9.30, one of the lamps was hoisted on the mainmast of the flag-ship *Fisgard*, displaying a red and blue light, which was clearly visible many miles round. A service-lamp was likewise raised on the *Fisgard's* mainmast at the same time to enable a comparison to be made, and the newly-invented light was pronounced infinitely superior. On Saturday one of the paddlebox lamps was tested in the cellars of the Dockyard smithy. A favourable report has been transmitted to the Lords of the Admiralty setting forth the advantages of the newly-invented lamp.

THE annual inspection of the Plymouth Division of the Royal Marine Light Infantry took place on Monday last before the Major-General commanding the western district, and Colonel Wesley, Deputy Adjutant-General of the corps. The division numbers upwards of 1100 of all ranks. All the evolutions (principally light infantry) were performed with extraordinary precision, and elicited well-deserved commendation. During the day a close inspection was also made of the barrack-rooms, infirmary, schools, divisional books, &c., with the whole of which the Major-General and the Deputy Adjutant-General expressed themselves much pleased.

THE 88th Regiment left Aldershot on Thursday morning for Portsmouth, to await transports to convey them to Calcutta. They will embark about the 8th of July; and, previously to their embarkation, will be presented with new colours. The old colours, which accompanied the regiment throughout the Crimea, are to be placed in Galway Church, so that the principal town of Connaught may contain a memorial of the achievements of the famous regiment whose gallant career forms one of the proudest associations of the province with which it is identified.

REGIMENTAL SCHOOLS.—A general order, calling the attention of officers to the condition of their regimental schools, has just been issued by his Royal Highness the General Commanding in Chief, in which it is stated that it is scarcely less essential to the soldier to be able to read and write, and keep his own accounts, than to be acquainted with his

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

"WHEN found, make a note of." Lord Chief Justice Campbell and Alderman Sir Peter Laurie both love facts—both are Scotchmen—both were in the habit of meeting an illustrious painter, now no more. Plain John Campbell knew Wilkie—at and away from Cults; plain Peter Laurie knew Wilkie at Kensington, at his own and at Wilkie's table. It seems impossible to suppose that Lord Campbell could be misinformed about any public fact of moment in the life of Wilkie's friend. But Lord Campbell can write at times in utter ignorance of facts, and

Lend a lie the confidence of truth.

To what extent of error his Lordship will occasionally run, take this passage (pretty public, we believe, though not hitherto in print) from his Lordship's recently-published "Life of Lord Chief Justice Tenterden":—

Tenterden was courteous in company, but rather stiff and formal in his manners, as if afraid of familiarity and requiring the protection of dignified station, which probably arose from the recollection of his origin and of his boyish days. He would voluntarily refer to these among very intimate friends, but he became exceedingly uneasy when he apprehended any allusion to them in public. Once, however, he was complimented upon his rise under circumstances so extravagantly ludicrous that he joined in the general shout of laughter which the orator called forth, Sir Peter Laurie, the sadder, when Lord Mayor of London, gave a dinner at the Mansion House to the Judges, and, in proposing their health, observed, in impassioned accents, "What a country is this we live in! In other parts of the world there is no chance, except for men of high birth and aristocratic connections; but here genius and industry are sure to be rewarded. See before you the examples of myself, the Chief Magistrate of the metropolis of this great empire, and the Chief Justice of England sitting at my right hand—both now in the highest offices in the State, and both sprung from the very dregs of the people!"

Weigh every word well—mark the impassioned accents—and the circumstances so extravagantly ludicrous; then reflect, passing by for a moment, as it were, that his Lordship was once a reporter, and then be prepared to learn that the whole story is not even what Dryden calls a sophisticated truth with an alloy of lie in it—that the speech said to have been spoken never was spoken—that the parallel said to have been drawn never was drawn—and then receive this one fact, that when Alderman Sir Peter Laurie was Lord Mayor of London Lord Chief Justice Tenterden—was in his grave.

Lives by great men misinform us. Surely Lord Campbell and Mrs. Gaskell might be heard in court one against the other—certainly in the same cause. But Lord Campbell has done the handsome thing by Sir Peter. The Lord Chief Justice owns he is wrong, and he apologises. Tenterden would not have made a mistake of this kind. But for Lord Campbell's errors in life-writing ask Mr. Foss, ask Mr. Spedding—excellent authorities not to be omitted "properly" when passing judgment on lives by Hale's successor.

Are we to have a life of Mr. Jerrold? Two or three Richards are in the field, it is said, claiming a monopoly of life-writing on their deceased friend. Who is to write it? We remember hearing Mr. Moore (Tom Moore) urging a monopoly in the life-writing of Sydney Smith. We remember, on the same occasion, Mr. Rogers (Sam Rogers) knocking down "Erin's bard," and proving that Moore was unfit (as unfit he was) to render justice to the great Sydney. We have not much confidence in the fitness of any one person to write Mr. Jerrold's life. Why, when the beautiful burial service for the dead is still in its last accents in our ears, and still moistening our eyes, should we be troubled with a three-volume life? It is easy to note that men who live too near to, or too distant from, their heroes are likely to fall into fearful errors. Ask Lord Campbell.

We are glad to observe that Lord Methuen still possesses the famous Corsham pictures. The belief prevalent in artistic circles was that his Lordship had parted with them, and in this belief Dr. Waagen cancelled his account of them from the last edition of "Art-Treasures in England." The Vandyke full-length of the Duke of Richmond with a dog is a picture of which any collection might be proud; but the so-called Mabuse of "The Three Children of Henry VII." is inferior to the Hampton Court and Wilton pictures of the same children, at the same ages, and in the same attitudes. We have seen all three within the last ten days, and are of opinion that the Hampton Court picture is the original.

Mr. Wornum has just put forth, price sixpence, a capital catalogue, descriptive and historical of the "Examples of the British School of Art in the National Gallery." The collection consists of some three hundred and nine pictures, of which three hundred are bequests or donations, and the odd nine purchases. Will it be believed that since the foundation of the National Gallery in 1824, when nine English pictures were acquired with the Angerstein collection, the nation has not bought a single specimen of the English school? And with such donations we still grudge a National Gallery. Is that true, my Lord Broughton?

Some of our contemporaries assure us that Mr. Croker is restored to health. We wish, indeed, that we could confirm their statement. He who writes this had the pleasure of conversing with Mr. Croker only a few days ago. His mind was bright and clear; his sarcastic eyes nearly as fine as we remember them many years ago; and his recollection of bygone times perfectly marvellous.

From a protest of Sir Charles Barry against the decision of the Treasury on his claims for remuneration as architect of the new Houses of Parliament, we learn that the building has been in progress nearly twenty years, covers more than eight acres of ground, and contains above 1180 rooms, 19 halls, 126 staircases, and more than two miles of corridors, passages, &c.

It is stated in the *Edinburgh Witness* that Government has been pleased to mark its sense of the services rendered to literature and science by the late Hugh Miller by bestowing upon his widow an annuity of £70.

BAFTISM OF THE PRINCESS BEATRICE.—It may be interesting to record that the water employed in this christening, on Tuesday week, was brought from the river Jordan, and presented to her Majesty for the occasion. It appears that Captain Geoffrey Nightingale, Hyderabad Cavalry, when travelling some time since in the Holy Land, visited the river Jordan, and had some of the water put into bottles, which, being hermetically sealed, the Captain brought to England; and, upon the birth of the Princess Beatrice, he placed at the disposal of the Queen a quantity of the water sufficient for the baptismal ceremony. Captain Nightingale's offer was accepted by her Majesty, and the Jordan water was accordingly placed in the Royal font, and used in the ceremony.

BAYONET MACHINERY.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, on his recent visit to Birmingham, inspected the arms-works of Mr. Charles Reeves, Charlotte-street, where he spent a considerable time in witnessing the different processes of manufacture of swords, bayonets, military ornaments, and buttons. His Royal Highness heard with great apparent interest the explanations given to him by the principal, and asked many questions relative to these branches of manufacture. This establishment having turned out during the war the largest number of bayonets of any works in the kingdom, the patent machinery for making the blades especially elicited the approbation of his Royal Highness, and in his presence ten blades were made in five minutes.

PRIZE GLEES.—The Abbey Glee Club prizes for the three best glee were on Monday last awarded to Messrs. Smith, Coward, and Martin. The last-named gentleman, it will be recollect, has succeeded on several successive occasions in carrying off the Glee Club prize of twenty guineas.

VAN LERIUS's great original picture of "Adam and Eve," exhibited last year in Pall-mall, is now to be seen at 60, St. Paul's Churchyard.

MUSIC.

THE company of HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE has received a valuable addition in the person of M. Belart, a tenor, who made his first appearance on Tuesday evening in the character of *Elezio* in the "Sonnambula," with complete success. He is a native of Spain, we are informed, and holds the situation of principal tenor at the Royal Opera, Madrid. He is a young man, scarcely of the heroic stature, but well made, with handsome, intelligent features, and his action is animated and easy. His voice is excellent, and his style of singing be-speaks the accomplished artist. He was warmly applauded throughout the piece; and his principal air, "Ah, perché non posso odiarti," was loudly encored. Alboni was the *Amina*. She certainly does not look the part of the young rustic maiden; but she acts with feeling, and, in her singing of the music, leaves every competitor far behind. Her "Ah, non giunge," was a marvellous display of brilliant execution, chastened by the purest taste, and finely in keeping with the rapturous joy expressed by the song. Alboni is the very *beau ideal* of a finished, perfect, Italian singer.

At the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, Mdlle. Victoire Balfé was to have appeared on Thursday in her second character, *Lucia*, but it was considered expedient to give her a little further time for complete preparation, and she will perform the above part, we believe, on Thursday next. In the meantime she repeated *Amina*, the part in which she has gained her earliest laurels.

An excellent concert was given at the Hanover-square Rooms on Monday morning, by the eminent composer and violinist, Herr Jansa. The programme was full of interesting matter. A quartet for two violins, viola, and violoncello, composed by Herr Jansa, was performed by him, along with Messrs. Carrodus, Schreurs, and Piatti—a masterly and beautiful work, which delighted the large and highly-musical audience. Another piece of his own—a concert-stück for two violins, viola, and violoncello, with orchestral accompaniments—likewise received the warmest applause. Among other instrumental pieces of a classical character was Beethoven's sonata for the piano and violin, Op. 47 (commonly called the "Kreutzer Sonata"), played in perfection by Herr Pauer and Herr Jansa. A fine motetto, "Ave Maria," composed by Herr Jansa for the Imperial Chapel at Vienna, was performed by the full band and chorus. He was assisted by Madame Rudersdorff, Herr von der Osten, M. Billet, Herr Engel, and Signor Regondi; and the concert was as successful as it was admirable. Herr Jansa was long the Kapellmeister of the Austrian Emperor's Chapel at Vienna; but, having, when on a visit to London a few years ago, committed the crime of appearing at a concert for the Hungarian refugees, he was deprived of his office at Vienna, and forced to remain in exile. Happily, however, the English public have discovered and appreciated his distinguished talents.

THE VOCAL UNION, a society formed last year for the performance of English glees and madrigals, began their second season (somewhat tardily) by a concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Wednesday morning. The members are Miss Marian Moss, Mr. Foster, Mr. Wilby Cooper, Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. Winn, and Mr. Thomas—all eminent in their profession, and distinguished as excellent glee singers. The concert consisted of glees and madrigals selected from the works of Elliot, Battishill, Goss, Horsley, and other composers. The room was crowded, and the audience listened with great delight to those fine specimens of our English vocal harmony, which is not surpassed in any country in the world.

MR. BENEDICT's second concert at Her Majesty's Theatre took place on Wednesday morning. It was on the same grand scale as the first, the whole vocal and instrumental strength of the establishment being put in requisition. There was a selection from the celebrated "Orfeo" of Gluck, including several of the choruses, and the air "Che farò senza Euridice," most exquisitely sung by Alboni. The finale to the first act of "Don Giovanni" was performed, with scenery, costumes, and dramatic action. Among the miscellaneous pieces was Balfé's air, "I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls," sung by Mdlle. Piccolomini, in English, and with a purity of elocution and beauty of voice and execution which delighted the audience.

ON Wednesday evening Mr. HULLAH terminated, for the season, his series of concerts at St. Martin's Hall. As at all the previous concerts, the hall was crowded; and an interesting concert of sacred and secular music was received with great applause.

WE perceive that Madame Bassano and Herr Kuhe's annual grand morning concert is to be given on Monday next, at the Hanover-square Rooms. The programme contains the names of Mdlle. Clara Novello, Mdlle. de Wexterhoud (the new Swedish nightingale), Lefort, Reichardt, Sims Reeves, and a host of other celebrities.

THE THEATRES, &c.

PRINCESS.—On Monday Mr. Charles Kean took his annual benefit at this theatre, the tragedy of "Richard II." being performed before a fashionable and numerous audience. The next great Shakespearean revival promised is "The Tempest," which will be performed next Wednesday.

LYCEUM.—On Wednesday an interesting experiment was made on these boards by Madame Ristori and the Italian company—an Italian translation of an English tragedy was successfully performed. The drama selected for this distinguished honour was Dr. Milman's "Fazio," the translator being Signor F. Dall' Ongaro, who, though he had not been able to render all the phrases of the original, has produced an effective version, and has even added a point or two remarkably telling for the actress also. Considerable curiosity prevailed, of course, to see how the great Italian tragedienne would succeed in this character, after Miss O'Neill, Miss Cushman, and Miss Glyn, all of whom have won laurels by its impersonation. "Fazio" is not generally regarded as a good acting play, and the manner in which it is commonly treated on the English stage is not at all commendable. Poor *Fazio* himself, and the guilty *Aldabella* in particular (with the exception of her first representative, Mrs. Faust), are too often rendered carelessly and grudgingly, as parts of which their representatives are ashamed—endure and not embrace. Very different was the case with these Italian performers. Signor Vitaliani really made an interesting part of *Fazio*, which he supported with wonderful elaboration and detail; and Mdlle. Ferroni threw considerable energy, dignity, and expression, particularly in the byplay, into the *Marchesa*. But, of course, the great feature was Ristori herself. The acting qualities of the first act are greatly improved by its reduction to one scene, which is managed by the interposition of a soliloquy added to the part of *Bianca*, during the absence of *Fazio* while disposing of old *Bartolo*'s body and property. In the discovery of *Fazio* having met with *Aldabella*, in the second act, Madame Ristori made the usual point; and it is not until the third act that any marked difference arises in her style of portraying the character. Here she rose at once into force and fervour, and the tide of passion and emotion set in, to know no ebb, until after the final fall of the curtain. The prison scenes were, in particular, pathetically interpreted; and the whole of the business, regarding her final parting with the husband whom in her jealousy she had accused and brought to execution, may be pronounced to be decidedly new and exceedingly beautiful. The cataleptic fit is undergone in a reclining posture; and, when her husband has taken leave of the almost prostrate and unconscious form, her slow recovery and exit afford new phases of performance. The latter, crawling, bounding, and falling successively on the stage, presented a vivid picture of heart-rending agony and desperate effort. What a contrast the next scene! Here Ristori was really commanding and powerful. How vigorous her denunciations, how dreamy her attitudes, how grandly she towered over the conscious *Aldabella*, how powerfully she supplicated the Duke to avenge her wrongs, how finely she grasped her brain and indicated the heat oppression under which it suffered! Of her death the details are so various that it were vain to attempt any enumeration. They should be seen, not described. The triumphant performance of this tragedy in a foreign tongue is a grateful vindication of English genius; and none could have retired from the performance of "Fazio" on Wednesday without feeling that he had formed a higher estimate of the drama than he had previously entertained. The appointments of the piece are very satisfactory: the banquet scene that concludes it is indeed most elegantly contrived. Some measures, however, should be taken to prevent the immoderate intervals that produce so much weariness between the acts.

ADEPHI.—Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams have reappeared at this theatre, during Mr. Webster's absence in the provinces, and have performed their favourite parts in "Ireland as It Is" with their usual success.

ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE, LIVERPOOL.—On Monday night Mr. Webster, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Paul Bedford appeared at this theatre together—for the first time, we believe, in Liverpool. The house was well filled, and each of the principal performers received an enthusiastic greeting. The performance for the night was "Janet Pride." About a year since "Janet Pride" was produced in Liverpool, with Mr. Webster as the leading character; but, on the present occasion, the appearance of Mr. Paul Bedford as *Black Jack*, and Mr. Wright as *Dickey Trotter*, formed a most valuable addition. Mr. Webster's truthful acting—painfully life-like in every look, gesture, and word—was warmly appreciated throughout. Mr. Bedford as the London outcast, made up of slang and coarseness, was as effective as Mr. Wright appeared in the character of the soft-hearted, blundering, honest Cockney apprentice. Miss Page played *Janet* very cleverly. Mr. Wright and Mr. Bedford afterwards appeared in a "screaming" farce called "The Terrible Tragedy in Seven Dials."

DUDLEY GALLERY, EGYPTIAN HALL.—Mr. and Mrs. Webb, coloured natives of Philadelphia, appeared on Wednesday afternoon, in a new entertainment, entitled "The Linford Studio." The room was frequented by a fashionable audience, who seemed to appreciate highly the various characters which Mrs. Webb impersonated. Among these were *le Prophète*, *Othello*, and *Rolla*, *en costume*. These were decidedly well done, and gave to the first part peculiar importance. The second is more miscellaneous and original, and designed for the exhibition of humour and singing, in which the burden is borne by Mrs. Webb, who must be reported as having sustained her claim for the possession of more than ordinary talent. The entertainment merits encouragement.

THE WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 24, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 A.M. 88 feet above level of sea, corrected and reduced.	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Adopted Mean Temperature.	Dry Bulb		Wet Bulb		Direction of Wind.	Amt. of Cloud.	Rain in 24 hours.
					at 9 A.M.	at 3 P.M.	at 9 A.M.	at 3 P.M.			
June 18	30 222	66.5	43.3	53.2	55.0	52.4	62.4	56.9	N.E.	5	0.000
" 19	30 132	77.0	44.1	63.9	67.4	61.7	76.5	66.6	N.E.	3	0.000
" 20	29 987	78.4	56.4	65.9	65.2	64.8	77.7	73.4	N.E.	10	0.432
" 21	29 933	73.8	58.3	62.8	65.0	62.5	70.0	60.7	N.W. N.	2	0.000
" 22	30 050	72.2	51.8	58.5	57.5	56.2	68.6	62.7	N.W. N.	1	0.000
" 23	30 218	82.7	52.0	68.9	70.5	64.2	81.6	70.8	N.E. N.E.	0	0.000
" 24	30 288	81.1	49.8	67.7	70.4	63.6	79.8	65.1	N.E. S.E.	0	0.000
Means	30 119	76.0	50.8	63.0	64.5	60.8	73.8	65.2			0.432

The range of temperature during the week was 39.4 deg.

Sheet lightning was seen on the night of the 19th, shortly after midnight, and a heavy storm occurred on the following morning between 7h. and 8h., when the lightning was accompanied with loud thunder, and rain was falling heavily. It was again raining heavily on the night of the 20th. A splendid meteor was perceived in the N.W. at 9h. 10m. p.m. of the 23rd, which was visible for a few seconds, and burst into fragments as it approached the horizon. A dense mist suddenly came over on the early morning of the 18th.

The sky was much overcast during the nights between June 18 and 21, but has since continued very clear.

J. BREEN.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

Day.	DAILY MEANS OF THERMOMETER.				WIND.
Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.		

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FASHIONS FOR JULY.—(SEE PAGE 640.)

parish of Ashover, for the cornices, quoins, window dressings, string-courses, faces, &c. The east front is ornamented with a tower, in which provision is made for a clock and bell, about to be raised by a local subscription.

The funds at the disposal of the committee being limited, in consequence of the increased expense of obtaining Parliamentary powers for the establishment of the company, the interior of the building is finished in a plain but substantial manner, at a cost, including the tower, of a little more than £8000. The tower and the whole of the stone dressings were added to the contract after the works had been commenced. The Exchange and General Market are lighted with glass roofs; and ventilation has been provided for both the markets and public rooms, by the use of ventilators patented by Mr. Watson, of Halifax.

On the ground plan of the building are comprised, besides the General and Corn Markets just described, twenty-one shops, varying in length from four to sixteen feet, and ten feet wide, seventeen of which are furnished with a separate cellar, and many of them having mezzanine store-rooms over them for the stowage of goods, refreshment-rooms with kitchens and cellars below, retiring-room for ladies, and a house for the market-keeper, with a weighing-machine office. The first floor provides three rooms for the Mechanics' Institute, viz., a library, reading and committee room; a public news-room, and seven private offices; a magistrates' room, 20 ft. 9 in. square and 14 ft. high; an ante-room; a large room for a sessions court, 70 ft. long, 32 ft. wide, and 27 ft. high, with a retiring-room for ladies. It is proposed to use the large room for balls, concerts, and public entertainments, with which view the ceiling is coved on all sides with a coving of 5 ft. radius, and

groined at the four angles of intersection. The tables, benches, and fittings for sessional and magisterial business are all made so as to admit of their being readily moved. The appearance of this room is light and elegant, and, when lit up with the sun-burners fixed in the ceiling, the effect is striking and agreeable. The second floor provides a news-room for the Mechanics' Institute, 21½ feet square and 12 feet high; eight rooms for private offices, a billiard-room, and a small room. Retiring-places are plentifully provided for at different convenient places on the building. The style of the structure is the Roman Italian. Mr. G. Thomson, of Derby, to whom the construction of the building has been confided, has executed the work in a very superior manner.

Messrs. Davies and Son, of Chesterfield, are the architects, whose designs were adopted from a number sent in to the committee in reply to a public advertisement for competition plans.

The General Market was opened for business on the 2nd May, which was commemorated by an inaugural dinner in the large concert-hall on Wednesday last, at which the Hon. G. H. Cavendish, M.P. (in the chair), Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P., W. P. Thornhill, Esq., M.P., W. H. De Rodes, Esq., High Sheriff of the county, and most of the leading local gentry and farmers, attended, followed by a ball on Thursday night, which was patronised by a brilliant company, and which passed off with the greatest *éclat*.

BOMBAY ARTILLERY PLATE.

THE superb Piece of Plate, which is represented, is now on its way to Bombay for presentation to the officers of the Bombay Artillery, from

Major-General Frederick Schuler, on his retirement after nearly forty-seven years' service.

General Schuler is an officer of high standing in the Bombay army, and is now holding the second command in that Presidency. The plate is four feet in height, and there are three larger groups upon the plinths, representing the horse, foot, and native artillery, being the three divisions of the regiment. On the column are ribbons (entwined with laurel leaves) bearing the names of all the actions in which the regiment has been engaged. The pillar is surmounted by a

PLATE PRESENTED TO THE BOMBAY ARTILLERY BY
MAJOR-GENERAL FREDERICK SCHULER.

figure of Britannia and the Lion. Upon the base are alto-relievoes of the citadel of Ghuznee and a troop of horse artillery in action, and the following simple inscription:

A Memento of Friendship from Major-General Frederick Schuler. Colonel Bombay Artillery, to the Regiment. Presented 1857.

The plate has been designed and manufactured by Messrs. Smith and Nicholson, under the superintendence of some of the officers of the regiment now in England. It is one of the most characteristic groups of plate we remember to have illustrated in our pages.



NEW MARKET-HALL, CHESTERFIELD.



THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM: GENERAL VIEW.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

THE opening of this new "Department of Science and Art," and the sittings of the Educational Conference, are events of kindred interest in the records of the past week. The latter meeting has exclusive reference to aiding the general education of the poor; while the object of the former is to aid in the diffusion, among all classes of the community, of those principles of Science and Art which are calculated to advance the industrial interests of the country. In other words, this new department may be regarded as the exponent of the consideration in which Art-education is at present held by the Government of this country. The Museum was visited by her Majesty and Prince Albert on Saturday evening, when the entire suite of buildings was lighted for the occasion, it being a recom-mendatory aim of the establishment to afford evening exhibitions of its national purpose. On Monday and Tuesday the Museum was exhibited privately; and on the latter evening the buildings were again lighted, and visited by a large assemblage, including a great number of persons distinguished in the various walks of art, science, literature, political and social economy; and the attendance of ladies gave unusual brilliancy to the soirée.

The South Kensington Museum is a result of the School of Design, founded in 1838. Its progress was slow; not more than twenty-one branch schools, chiefly subsidised by the State, being established in the course of twelve years. The proceedings of the parent school, at Somerset House, it will be recollected, were illustrated in the early volumes of this Journal. In 1851 the Great Exhibition in Hyde-park taught that art is the parent of design, and that design is the essence of successful manufactures—and the lesson was not thrown away. This led to the extension of the School of Design into the present Department of Science and Art, under the Committee of Privy Council on Education; self-supporting, instead of subsidised, schools were established, and the education in Arts of the whole people, and not a class merely, became the object of the new department. A nucleus of a permanent Museum of Works of Art was formed and deposited at Marlborough House, in Pall-mall, and has been transferred to South Kensington, together with the articles belonging to the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851, and temporarily deposited in the conservatory at Kensington Palace.

For the present purposes of the Museum a group of buildings has been provided upon that portion of the South Kensington estate purchased by her Majesty's Commissioners, and almost close to Holy Trinity Church, Brompton. These buildings must be considered as only provisional, until a suitable permanent structure has been provided. Thither have been removed the wooden schools from Marlborough House; two old brick houses, formerly inhabited by Mr. Justice Cresswell and Lord Talbot, have been adapted to school purposes; a brick gallery, for the reception of Mr. Sheepshanks' gifts of pictures and drawings, has been erected immediately adjoining the iron building constructed under the direction of the Commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1851, engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for April 12, 1856, and, upon its completion, passed over to the department.

The large Engraving upon the preceding page is a general view of the Museum buildings; or rather the principal portion fronting Cromwell-road, near its junction with the Brompton-road. The old brick dwelling-houses are on the left; next is the entrance to the schools; then the iron building, its plainness redeemed by a pretty portico; and beyond it is the new building for the collections of science and art. A few of the fine old trees relieve the utilitarian character of the buildings; though they are scarcely less unsightly than the Chapel of the Oratorians, shouldering the Holy Trinity Church and its pleasant lime-tree approach. Upon no spot in the suburbs of the metropolis has the hand of improvement been busier than upon this locality. Thirty years ago the site of Brompton Church was a nursery-ground, with the gardener's house in the centre; its remains are traceable in the churchyard, where upon many of the graves are funereal yews and blooming flowers. Adjoining were some villas, with charming grounds, the scene of many a gay fête; and beyond were the retreats of two or three favourite actors, who must have enjoyed this rural seclusion after the sickening glare of the theatre and the town. Brompton Park has been broken up, and groves and gardens have been cleared away, perchance for the site of some future art-town; but, with all the advantages of the change, one cannot help regretting the sweeping away of so many memorials of interesting persons, events, and circumstances, as were associated with this once rural spot.

Hereafter we intend to illustrate the principal divisions of this department. Meanwhile it may be stated that its special objects are educational and doctrinal, and the skill with which they have been systematised presents advantages not possessed by institutions of greater extent. The importance of adapting exhibitions to the educational requirements of the people is, in the South Kensington Museum, ably carried out; and reminds one it is not sufficient that rare and costly objects be deposited in stately buildings to ensure the intellectual advancement of the community; and that, although our greatest national collection is visited by hundreds of thousands of sight-seers during the year, the adaptation of the institution to the purposes of education conjointly with amusement remains to be effected.

The objects of the South Kensington Department are:—1. To train male and female teachers to give instruction in art; to certify them when qualified; and to make them annual fixed payments, varying according to their requirements. 2. To aid and assist committees in the provinces desirous of establishing schools of art. 3. To hold public inspections and examinations, and to award medals and prizes to the most deserving candidates. 4. To collect together works of art, pictures, &c., in the Central Museum, and books and engravings in the Central Library. 5. To circulate among the schools of art objects from the Museum and books and engravings from the Library.

The new buildings embrace—1. The offices of the Department. 2. The Male and Female Training School and the Normal Central School of Art. 3. The Museum devoted to the purposes of Education.

As you enter the corridor the objects of Ornamental Art are strikingly arranged. The entire collection numbers upwards of 4000 objects; but a fourth part, including the acquisitions from the Bernal Collection, has been sent to Manchester. The specimens of mediæval furniture and decoration, the painted glass, and the series of reproductions, consisting of plaster casts, electrotype copies, photographs, engravings, and drawings, are very attractive, and in their arrangement well done the doctrinal plan of the institution.

To the larger objects formerly exhibited at Marlborough House a hall in the centre of the buildings is appropriated. Here are copies from the frescoes of the *loggia* of Raphael, the cast from Michael Angelo's colossal figure of David, and the collection of models in wax and clay moulded by the same illustrious artist.

The Education Collections occupy the central portion of the Great Exhibition iron building. These objects comprise specimens of scientific instruments, objects of natural history, models of school-rooms and school-fittings, casts of classical statues, and a library of 5000 volumes. Our public instructors are evidently sensible of the multitudinous objects of education, and in these collections has been strictly observed a system of classification, with especial view to its utility for reference.

Thus the official subdivisions are:—"School buildings and fittings, general education, drawing and the fine arts, music, household economy, geography and astronomy, natural history, chemistry, physics, mechanics, apparatus for teaching the deaf and dumb, idiots, &c., and physical training." To this collection the "Commissioners of Patents' Museum" forms a sort of supplement. In this department the history of the steam-engine is copiously illustrated.

As an exhibition, the Gallery of British Fine Arts, containing the Sheepshanks Collection of 234 Pictures, chiefly of English domestic life and English scenery, will be the most popular attraction. We shall hereafter give a critical and descriptive *résumé* of this truly English gallery, unique as a collection of modern art: here are twenty-eight works produced by Mr. Mulready in the course of fifty years; five pictures by Mr. Webster; sixteen by Sir Edwin Landseer; twenty-three by Leslie; besides pictures by Turner, Creswick, Collins, Callicott, Constable, Redgrave, Roberts, and Stanfield.

Adjoining the Sheepshanks Gallery is the commencement of a historic illustration of British sculpture, containing about fifty works by twenty-five artists, among whom are Baily, Bell, Foley, Munro, Calder, Marshall, and the late Sir Richard Westmacott.

In the lower portion of the gallery and the west gallery of the iron building is deposited the Architectural Museum, removed from Canon-row, Westminster.

In the east gallery is the Trade Collection, chiefly composed of the natural products used in the various arts; of these the animal products are alone to be retained. The others, consisting of mineral and vegetable produce, will be distributed among various national and provincial museums which admit of improvement.

Lastly is the Economic Museum, designed to teach the industrious

classes the knowledge of common things, and to show them how it may promote their health, comfort, and happiness. This collection originated with the philanthropic Mr. Thomas Twining, jun., who has liberally presented to the Museum the articles which he had assembled at his own expense. Of this collection Mr. Twining has printed an excellent catalogue, which contains a larger amount of common sense, and means adapted to ends, than many an encyclopædia of domestic economy; while it is worth a score of volumes of economic gossip and antiquated cookery.

The arrangement of the entire department, as far as completed, is admirable; and everything has been done to adapt the new Museum to the means of the classes for whose special advantage it has been mainly provided. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, being students' days, the price of admission will be 6d.; on the other days of the week admission will be free. The hours will extend from ten to four, but the Museum will likewise be open on the evenings of Monday and Thursday, from seven to ten. The catalogue, a folio of ten pages, costs but 1d. each.

WILLS.—The will of Thomas Hodgson, Esq., of St. James's-place, Westminster, has been proved under £400,000; John Morrant, Esq., of Brockenhurst House, Southampton, £250,000; Robert Bickersteth, Esq., Liverpool, £70,000 within the province of Canterbury; the Rev. J. Bayley, of Domer, £20,000; Thomas Welch, Esq., of Edgbaston, £20,000; Mr. Isaac Neal, of Thames-street, £10,000, and has left small charitable bequests to the London Orphan Asylum, St. Ann's School, British and Foreign Bible Society, and the London Missionary Society; Alfred Brittle, Esq., late of Paris, formerly of London and of Derby, £70,000.

ERRATUM.—In the account of the will of the late Edward Kemble, Esq., as given in our last, for "a legacy of £500 to the minister of Camden Chapel," read "to the late minister of Camden Chapel, the Rev. Henry Melville."

THE Wesleyans of Grantham have just erected in their spacious Centenary Chapel, in Finkin-street, an organ, built by Messrs. Foster and Andrews, of Hull. The celebration of the reopening of the chapel, with this important addition to the services, is fixed to take place on Tuesday next, the 30th inst.

NEW ORGAN FOR THE BLIND.—On Tuesday a large new organ, built for the private establishment of the blind situate at Turnham-green, was tested by Mr. James Summers, the organist, in the presence of a large number of ladies and gentlemen, who assembled in the music-room of the establishment. The performance, which consisted of selections from Mendelssohn, Handel, Mozart, &c., was highly effective, and calculated to display the superior tone and quality of the instrument. It was built by Messrs. Robson, of St. Martin's-lane; the manuals extend from C C to G, fifty-six notes, and the swell organ of full compass going down to C C. At the conclusion of the performance the visitors inspected the establishment, of which Mr. W. Wood (late master of the school of the London Society for Teaching the Blind to Read) is the principal. Much interest was taken in the specimens of embossed type the invention of Mr. Wood; in the moveable types for teaching arithmetic, &c.; and in the embossed characters (stereographic), embossed maps, models, &c., by which means the general course of instruction is carried out.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

NOTWITHSTANDING the late reduction in the rate of discount by the Bank of England, and the present comparative ease in the Money Market, coupled with a full average supply of unemployed capital in the hands of the leading discount-houses, great inactivity has prevailed in the market for Home Stocks this week, and scarcely any change has taken place in the quotations. The Unfunded Debt has, likewise, been heavy, and prices have shown a further tendency to give way. Certainly, the present position of the market may have excited surprise in more than one quarter, seeing that steady imports of bullion, an increase in the stock of gold in the Bank of England, and a great improvement in the Reserve have not influenced Consols more than a per cent. But we may observe that the accounts from the manufacturing districts are by no means so favourable as could be desired—the consumption of cotton being from 5000 to 6000 bales less per week than at the corresponding period in 1856—and that the advices from India and China are of a nature which leads us to suppose that very large supplies of silver have yet to be forwarded to the East. On the Continent, too, matters are any thing but favourable, although the Bank of France is almost daily receiving supplies of gold from this country or the United States. The heavy amounts locked up in the Bank here on Government account have, for a time, deprived the public of the means of purchasing stock; and, until the dividends are payable, any improvement in Consols can hardly be anticipated. Again, we must bear in mind that much excitement prevails in reference to the silk crop. At present it is not considered safe, or that the return will be a large one. We believe, however, that the produce will, taking France and Italy collectively, be considerably in excess of last year. The Bank of France lately remitted gold to New York to purchase silver, and this week that institution has received £50,000 in Mexican dollars forwarded from the United States. This is certainly a peculiar traffic; because we are positively drawing from France silver purchased by our gold. We need scarcely observe that the losses upon such transactions must be enormous.

The total imports of bullion this week, have been about £100,000, chiefly from America. The exports have been limited, and about £270,000 in gold out of the late arrivals have been sold to the Bank.

For money there has been a healthy demand generally. We have no further relaxation to notice in the rates of discount; but we may observe that the bankers in Lombard-street are charging from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent below the Bank minimum for the best paper.

The operations in the English Market on Monday were very moderate, and, towards the close of business, prices were rather drooping. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 93 and 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; New Three per Cents, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Consols for Account, 94 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; Consols for opening, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; India Bonds were 33 to 78 dis.; Exchequer Bills, 33. dis. to 3s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 98 $\frac{1}{2}$. Bank Stock was 213 and 211 $\frac{1}{2}$. On Tuesday the transactions were trifling, as follows:—Reduced Three per Cents, 93 and 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; New Three per Cents, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Consols for Account, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; Long Annuities, 181-16; Exchequer Bills, 33. dis. to par. Bank Stock marked 214 and 212 $\frac{1}{2}$. The fluctuations in prices on Wednesday were unimportant.—The Reduced Three per Cents realised 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ 93; New Three per Cents, 93 and 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Consols for Account, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, for Opening, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; India Bonds, 78. dis. to 2s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 2s. prem. to 4s. dis. On Thursday the market was somewhat firmer, and prices were steadily supported.—The Three per Cents marked 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ for Account; and 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ for Opening. The New Three per Cents were 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ 93; the Reduced, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ 93; Exchequer Bills marked 78. dis. to 2s. prem.; and India Bonds, 8s. to 4s. dis. The Directors of the Bank of England made no further change in the rate of discount.

There has been no new feature in the Foreign-house. The transactions generally have been very moderate; nevertheless, prices have ruled firm.—Ecuador Two-and-a-Half per Cents have marked 14 $\frac{1}{2}$; Chilean Six per Cents, 102 $\frac{1}{2}$; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$; Portuguese Three per Cents, 46 $\frac{1}{2}$; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 99 $\frac{1}{2}$; Sardinian Five per Cents, 89 $\frac{1}{2}$; Spanish Three per Cents, 42; Spanish New Deferred, 26; Turkish Six per Cents, 96 $\frac{1}{2}$; Turkish Four per Cents, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; French Three per Cents, 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25c. ex div.; Danish Five per Cents, 102 $\frac{1}{2}$; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 65 $\frac{1}{2}$; Dutch Four per Cents, 97 $\frac{1}{2}$; Grenada Two-and-a-Quarter per Cents, New Active, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$; Grenada Two-and-a-Quarter per Cents, Deferred, 6; Guatemala Five per Cents, 54; Russian Five per Cents, 110; Venezuela Four-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 38; Ditto, Deferred, 13.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been very firm, as follows:—Australia, 89 $\frac{1}{2}$; Bank of London, 50; City, 64; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; London Chartered of Australia, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and County, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and Westminster, 50; Ottoman, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$; South Australian, 36; Union of Australia, 56 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, 66.

Very few transactions have taken place in Miscellaneous Securities, yet prices have been fairly supported.—Victoria Docks, 90; Atlantic Telegraph, 80 to 40 dis.; Australian Agricultural, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$; Australian Royal Mail, 13; Crystal Palace, 2 and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; Electric Telegraph, 33; London General Omnibus, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$; British American Land, 37; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; National Discount, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 67 ex div. and bonus; Scottish Australian Investment, 12.

The Railway Share Market generally has been much less active than last week. In prices, however, the fluctuations have not been to say extensive. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$; Caledonian, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$; East Anglian, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern Counties, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern Union, B Stock, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$; East Kent, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 62 $\frac{1}{2}$; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 104 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Western, 65; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 100 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and Blackwall, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and North-Western, 104; Ditto, Eighths, 2; London and South-Western, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 44 $\frac{1}{2}$; Midland, 83 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 55 $\frac{1}{2}$; Norfolk, 64; North British, 43 $\frac{1}{2}$; North-Eastern (Berwick), 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Leeds, 44 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, York, 71 $\frac{1}{2}$; North Staffordshire, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 33; Vale of Neath, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$; West End of London and Crystal Palace, B. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Hull and Selby, 106 $\frac{1}{2}$; Shrewsbury and Hereford, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 26; Eastern Counties Extension, No. 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ pm.; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 70 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Northern Five per Cent, 114 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 101; Great Western Four per Cent, 84; Ditto, Five per Cent, 100 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Birmingham Shares, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$; Midland—Bristol and Birmingham, 132 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto,

Four-and-a-Half per Cent Stock, 96; North British, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; North Eastern—York H and S Purchase, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—East Indian, 109 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, C Shares, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, E Shares Extension, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; Geelong and Melbourne, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$; Grand Trunk of Canada, 59 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Six per Cent Debentures, 87; Great Indian Peninsula, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Western of Canada, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$; Madras, Third Extension, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$.

FOREIGN.—Dutch Rhineisli, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern of France, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Luxembourg, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; Northern of France, 39 $\frac{1}{2}$; Norwegian Trunk Preference, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$; Paris and Lyons, 60 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Mining Shares have been rather dull. On Thursday Alfred Consols were done at 16 ex div.; Great Wheal Vor, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; Wheal Kitty, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$; Wheal Trawlawy, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$; Linares, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; and United Mexican, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—June 22.—A very moderate supply of English wheat was on sale in to-day's market, but the general condition of the samples was good. The trade ruled steady, and, in some instances, prices were 1s. per quarter higher than on Monday last. There was a good flow of foreign wheat, but the high quotations demanded by holders checked business. Floating cargoes of grain sold at very full prices. For barley we had a good demand, at fully rated rates. Malt, however, sold slowly, on former terms. Although the supply of oats was seasonably extended, the trade ruled firm, at extreme currencies. Both beans and peas were held at 5s. per barrel.

Grain.—Our market is generally steady, and prices are well supported.

Linen.—Linen English, Rushing, 70s. to 71s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 61s. to 62s

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM is now OPEN to the Public DAILY, from Ten till Four; and on Monday and Thursday Evenings, from Seven till Ten. Admission on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays, Free; on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 6d. each person. By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—THE FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East (close to Trafalgar-square), from Nine till Dusk. Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

FRENCH EXHIBITION.—The Fourth EXHIBITION of PICTURES by MODERN ARTISTS of the FRENCH SCHOOL is NOW OPEN at the FRENCH GALLERY, 121, Pall-mall (opposite the Opera Colonnade). Admission, 1s.; catalogues, 6d. each. Open from Nine to six daily. B. FRODSHAM, Secretary.

MDLLE. ROSA BONHUEUR's Great Picture of the HORSE FAIR.—Messrs. P. and D. Colnaghi and Co. beg to announce that the above Picture is now ON VIEW from Nine till Six, at the GERMAN GALLERY, 163, New Bond-street, for a limited period.—Admittance, 1s.

GENERAL WILLIAMS and his STAFF LEAVING KARS, and the ALLIED GENERALS BEFORE SEBASTOPOL. Painted by Thomas Barker, Esq. These grand historical Pictures of the late War are now being EXHIBITED by Messrs. LLOYD (BROTHERS) and CO., at the Auction Mart, City, from Ten to Five. Admission is. each.

PHOTOGALVANOGRAPHY, or Nature Engraving.—PRIVATE VIEW—Messrs. COLNAGHI and CO. beg to announce that they have arranged with the Photogalvanographic Company for the EXHIBITION of their NATURE ENGRAVINGS produced by Herr Preisch's Invention, which recently has so much engaged the attention of the artistic and scientific world. Mr. D. Colnaghi's Photographic Views of the Parks of London, and his admired Photographs of Bolton Abbey Scenery, will also be exhibited. Cards to view available from the 25th inst. till Monday, 5th July.—Messrs. P. and D. Colnaghi and Co., 11, and 15, Pall-mall East; The Galvanographic Company, Holloway.—Herr Preisch's Process will be explained and illustrated by examples. W. H. H. LILLY, General Manager.

69, REGENT GALLERY, QUADRANT. The NONDESCRIPT has ARRIVED, and will shortly APPEAR.

MISS JULIA ST. GEORGE'S HOME and FOREIGN LYRICS, embracing songs, characters, and costumes of many lands. The whole of the Music by J. F. Duggan. Davenbury, June 29th. Blackburn, July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

THE SISTERS SOPHIA and ANNIE will Recombine in SEPTEMBER, being the fifth year of their entertainment, entitled SKETCHES from NATURE. Whiston-road, Ipswich.

MUSICAL UNION.—DIRECTOR'S GRAND MATINEE.—WILLIS'S ROOMS, JUNE 30th.—Mme. Schumann, Mlle. Staudach, MM. Sivori, Goffre, Blagrove, Patti, Bottesini, &c. (vocalist), Herr von der Osten, are engaged. Programme—Quartet in F, No. 82; Haydn; Kreutzer Sonata; Beethoven; Grand Septet; Hummel. Solos, Pianoforte, Double Bass, &c. Adelaide; and Persian Songs, &c. Tickets to be had of Cramer and Co., Chappell and Co., and Olivier. The Concert will begin at Three o'clock. No free admissions granted at this Matinee. J. ELLA, Director.

MR. W. G. CUSINS'S Second and Last MATINEE MUSICALE will commence at Three o'clock, WILLIS'S ROOMS, MONDAY, JUNE 29.—Artists: Madame Clara Novello, MM. Rodcarn, Weisa, Remondi, R. Blagrove, Mr. Pratten, Nicholson, C. Harper, Harold Thomas, and W. G. Cusins, Adelaide; and Persian Songs, &c. Tickets to be had of Cramer and Co., Chappell and Co., and Olivier. The Concert will begin at Three o'clock. No free admissions granted at this Matinee.

MESSRS. R. BLAGROVE and HAROLD THOMAS's third and last MATINEE MUSICALE, at WILLIS'S ROOMS, MONDAY, July 6th, to Commence at Half-past Two o'clock. Artists: Miss Lolly, Mrs. Haynes, Signor Marras, Mr. Beaumon, and the Orpheus Glee Union; Messrs. R. Blagrove, Chipp, R. Blagrove, W. G. Cusins, and Harold Thomas. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Family Tickets, to admit three, 2s. 6d.; Tickets, 7s. each.

MISS ELLEN DAY begs to announce that her MATINEE MUSICALE will take place at WILLIS'S ROOMS, on SATURDAY, JULY 4, under the patronage of the Duchess of Bedford, the Marchioness of Abercorn, the Marchioness of Ely, the Countess of Durham, Lady Caron, Barrington, Lord Clarence Paget, and the Rev. Sir F. A. G. Ouseley, Bart. Vocalists: Madame F. Lablache, Mr. Benson, and Signor F. Lablache. Instrumentalists: Herr Frotz, Messrs. J. Day, H. Chipp, Vogel, Gunnis, Cusins, and Signor Bottesini. To commence at Half-past Two o'clock, Half-a-Guinea each, Unreserved Seats, Seven Shillings, to be had at Cramer and Beale's, Regent-street; and of Miss Ellen Day, 90, Cambridge-street, Ecclestone-square, S.W.

HER WILHELM GANZ respectfully announces that his GRAND MATINEE MUSICALE will take place (by the kind permission of Lord Ward) at the DUDLEY GALLIAX, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, on FRIDAY, JULY 3; to commence at Half-past Two o'clock; under the immediate patronage of his Royal Highness Prince Frederick William of Prussia.—He will be assisted by the following eminent artists:—Mlle. Jenny Bauer, Miss Messent, Mlle. Antonetta Mary, and Mme. Lemmings Sherman; Mr. Charles Brahms, Signor Guizziello, Signor Bazzini, M. Paque, and M. Benedict. Tickets, One Guinea each, at Mitchell's, Cramer's, Oliviera's, and Herr Wilhelm Ganz, 37, Golden-square. Herr Wilhelm Ganz will perform his New Fantasia from "La Traviata," his "Souvenir de Weimar" and, with Signor Bazzini and M. Paque, Mendelssohn's "Tristan in D Minor."

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HENRY FARMER'S ROSE of the VALLEY POLKA, just published. Illustrated by Brandard. Solo, 3s.; Duet, 3s.; Septett, 3s. 6d.; Full Orchestra, 5s. London: JOSEPH WILLIAMS,



THE "INFLEXIBLE" IN A CYCLONE IN THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN.

THE WAR WITH CHINA.

MEMORABLE OCEAN STEAM VOYAGE.

AMONG the remarkable incidents of the progress of the war with China will hereafter be chronicled the voyage of her Majesty's steam sloop-of-war, *Inflexible*, 6 guns (Commander J. Corbett), and her Majesty's gun-boat *Starling* (Lieutenant and Commander A. Villiers), on their passage out from England to Hong-Kong.

We have been favoured with the accompanying Sketches by an officer on board the former of these vessels, which left England in company on the 23rd of October last, and arrived together at Hong-Kong on the 25th of March last, the *Inflexible* having had the *Starling* actually in tow over 10,000 miles of their course, a greater distance than any one vessel has ever previously towed another across the ocean.

The first Illustration shows the *Inflexible* in a cyclone in the Southern

Indian Ocean, January 31; and the companion Engraving shows the *Inflexible* and the *Starling*, on March 18, in a N.E. monsoon in the China Sea, with the Island of Palo Supata in the distance.

THE EXPENSES OF THE CHINESE WAR.—Copies of correspondence with Sir John Bowring on the subject of his application for a vote from Parliament to defray the expenses of measures of precaution and defence at Hong-Kong, required by the state of affairs in China, have been published. It appears that two despatches, respectively dated 25th January, 1857, and 12th March, 1857, were addressed by Sir John Bowring to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, requesting two separate grants of £10,000 for the above purposes. In reply, Mr. Labouchere states that the Government will ask Parliament for a vote of credit for £10,000 for Hong-Kong, but that the second application cannot be complied with without a more satisfactory explanation of the precise objects towards which the aid is to be applied.

ENORMOUS EXPORT OF SILVER.—The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Pera*, Captain Joy, left Southampton on Saturday last with the heavy portion of the fortnightly India and China mail. The mail was a very heavy one. The *Pera* took out 74 passengers, and specie, chiefly silver, to the amount of nearly a million and a quarter sterling. The bulk of this was taken to Southampton from London by a special train of 17 waggons, and the whole of the specie weighed upwards of eighty tons. Precious metals to so large an amount were never, perhaps, on board a single ship at one time. The export of enormous quantities of silver is exciting the greatest interest, not only on account of the important commercial and political circumstances with which it is connected, but also because of the fortunes which are being made by all those who are merely concerned in its transit, and because of the vast extent of British commerce which it reveals. Nearly 3000 bales of silk arrive in England every fortnight with the overland India and China mail, every bale being worth £100, besides the silk that reaches England in sailing-vessels by the long-sea route. As much profit as 25 per cent. is made by the sale of silver for the East.



THE "INFLEXIBLE" TOWING THE "STARLING" GUNBOAT.

THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

LAST week we gave an account of the progress of this great celebration at the Crystal Palace down to the end of the second day's performance on Wednesday, the 17th inst. On the Friday following the festival terminated with one of Handel's greatest works, "Israel in Egypt," which was given in a style of unparalleled grandeur, and with even greater success than the oratorios of the preceding days. The influx of visitors was immense. While the audiences on the Monday and Wednesday did not exceed twelve thousand persons on each day, on Friday the assemblage numbered above seventeen thousand. The congregation of this immense multitude within the area of the Central Transept of the building and in the surrounding galleries, all within sight of the orchestra and within hearing of the music, afforded a spectacle hitherto unequalled in this country.

"Israel in Egypt" is better fitted than either "The Messiah" or "Judas Maccabeus" for performance on so enormous a scale and in so vast a locality. It consists almost wholly of double choruses—choruses, that is to say, for two choirs distinct from and responsive to each other; while the airs and other pieces for solo voices are few and slight.

There is no record of the circumstances which attended the composition of "Israel in Egypt," or of the reason which induced Handel to adopt the very peculiar construction of this oratorio. But it is certain that its construction had a most injurious influence on its success during the author's lifetime, and indeed almost down to the present day. It was first produced in 1738; and during the subsequent twenty years that Handel lived it was performed only six times; and, in order to tempt the public to come and hear it, he was reduced to the expedient of getting his Italian singers to interlard it with fashionable opera songs which had nothing to do with its subject. This fact is vouched by Handel's own memoranda on the manuscript score of the oratorio, which is preserved in the Queen's library. It was not printed, moreover, while Handel lived, nor for many years after he died; the first edition having appeared in 1770; and we may add that, though there seem to have been some imperfect performances at provincial music meetings, it was not once performed in London from the time of Handel's death to the Westminster Abbey Festival in 1834. On that occasion a number of airs were interpolated, taken from other works of Handel, to which new words, suited to the subject, were adapted; and the same thing (though to a smaller extent) was done by the Sacred Harmonic Society when they performed this oratorio at Exeter Hall not more than ten years ago. This practice of "cooking" a work of Handel, to make it palatable to the taste of the million, is at length abandoned. We have the oratorio as the great master left it, without addition or mutilation. It is now, in its integrity, one of the stock pieces at Exeter Hall; and no other piece attracts greater or more enthusiastic audiences.

The performance at the Crystal Palace was altogether the best that took place during the festival. If the few and unimportant airs and duets were indistinctly heard, the grandeur of the general effect, produced by the almost unbroken succession of stupendous choruses, was not greatly impaired; and the solo-singers, moreover, having become more accustomed to the locality, were better able than before to measure their voices against the expanse they had to fill, and thus avoided the mishap into which they had previously fallen, of being, sometimes, totally inaudible. We could now hear, however faintly, all the notes they sang; but it was seldom that we could catch the words they uttered. The chorus-singing was prodigiously improved; the choristers having not only got accustomed to the place, but to each other; each individual having begun to learn how to calculate the strength necessary to be given to his own voice, as a unit, in the mighty sum of which it made a part. Still, however, even the great number of voices, trained and experienced as they were, did not succeed in sufficiently "filling" the ear of the listener. The sounds were partially dissipated and lost in the vast space; and the music sounded as if the assemblage, performers and audience, were all singing and listening in the open air. It is under this qualification that the following remarks on two or three of the principal pieces are to be understood.

The first chorus, "And the children of Israel sighed," one of the most pathetic of Handel's choral pieces, was beautifully sung; its long wailing notes, taken up in succession by the different parts, and then blending in one great mass of mournful harmony, being impressive in the highest degree. The air, "Their land brought forth frogs," was well sung by Miss Dolby, but she failed to give it effect. The air is trivial, and the imitation by the orchestra of the skipping frogs is one of the puerilities belonging to the taste of the day, of which even Handel could not entirely divest himself. In the next chorus, descriptive of the plague of flies and lice, there is a similar piece of ignoble mimicry perpetrated by the instruments, and the chorus itself is not remarkable for power. It passed over, accordingly, with little notice; but the case was very different with the famous "Hailstone Chorus," a specimen of true musical description, in which the most vivid images are called up by the simplest means. We almost see the "fire mingled with hail" which "ran along the ground;" and we hear the cries and shrieks of the affrighted multitude, mingled with the howling of the storm. These effects were admirably given, and peals of applause from every corner bore testimony to the power of this wonderful musical picture. There is another picture of not less power in the chorus, "He rebuked the Red Sea," which describes the miraculous passage of the Israelites, and the destruction of the pursuing host, overwhelmed by the waters. This, too, by the help of most admirable singing, was awfully grand and imposing. The second part of the oratorio expresses the rejoicing and thanksgiving of the Israelites for the stupendous interposition of Heaven in their behalf. It consists of a magnificent series of choruses mixed with three or four airs and duets. Only two of the airs ever produce any effect. The one, "The enemy said," was sung by Mr. Sims Reeves; the other, "Thou didst blow," by Miss Dolby; and were much applauded. There is one effective duet, "The Lord is a man of war." Its plain and popular style catches the general ear; and, vigorously sung by Formes and Weiss, whose powerful voices were well heard throughout the place, it seemed to give great satisfaction to the audience. The great vocal display was Clara Novello's utterance of the celebrated solo, "Sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he hath cast into the sea." The power and energy which the fair singer threw into this passage were indescribable; her magnificent voice rang through the whole building with the clearness of a bell, and every word she uttered was distinctly heard. It was to be regretted, however, that she impaired the sublimity of the effect by the introduction of an ambitious ornament at variance with the grand simplicity of Handel's text.

Thus terminated this great and memorable festival, which will give a fresh impulse throughout the whole nation to the study and cultivation of the music of Handel. As a musical experiment it has especially a great point, that more than two thousand voices and instruments may be brought into combination without confusion. But it has also shown that no adequate arena for the assemblage of so great a host has yet been found. The difficult problem is, to find a locality sufficiently spacious for the development of the sounds of two thousand performers, and at the same time so constructed as to enable the sounds of a single performer to be completely heard. This problem, it is generally admitted, has not been solved. The transept of the Crystal Palace, it has been found, is little better for musical purposes than the middle of an open field; and it is a matter of necessity that some acoustical means be taken to give the place the compactness, vibration, and resonance which are the essential requisites of a great music-hall.

THE GRAND CALEDONIAN FANCY DRESS BALL.—This annual ball, under the immediate patronage of her Majesty and members of the Royal family, for the benefit of the Royal Caledonian Asylum and the Royal Scottish Hospital, was given at Willis's Rooms on Monday. As customary at this annual réunion, all the gentlemen attending appeared in uniform. Highland garb, or Court dress. The boys and girls clothed and educated at the institution were mustered in the lower room, headed by the juvenile band and corps of pipers. His Serene Highness the Hereditary Prince of Saxe Meiningen, and his Highness the Rajah Dhulceep Singh, were among the élite of the visitors.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.—On the 1st July next and thenceforward the uniform sixpenny rate of postage will be extended to letters transmitted between the United Kingdom and the following British colonies:—Falkland Islands, Gambia, by packet or private ship. Labuan, Vancouver's Island, Ionian Islands, by private ship. Natal, by packet via the Cape of Good Hope, or private ship direct. For a letter above half an ounce, and not exceeding one ounce, the postage will be 1s. When above one ounce, and not exceeding two ounces, 2s., and so on, increasing 1s. for every additional ounce or fraction of an ounce. The postage on letters to the above-mentioned colonies must, in all cases, be paid in advance.

MR. CHARLES KEAN has been elected a member of the Royal Society of Antiquaries.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. B.—Mr. Jacobi has already shown in his admirable analyses of the King's Bishop's Gambit, that Petroff's attack affords the first player the power, if not of winning, of, at least, drawing the game.

DELT.—The game was returned, for the reasons specified, with many thanks.

J. E. F., et Petersburg.—We await with anxiety a reply to the communication dispatched six weeks since.

DE R., Paris.—An answer has been forwarded. As to the copies of the paper mentioned, they are probably in the vaults of the Post-office; at any rate, they have never reached us.

B.—The ingenious variety in the game, by transposing the Bishops and Knights, which was suggested by a correspondent a few weeks ago, is deserving more attention than it appears to have received in this country. The Americans, who show more alacrity in testing the value of novelties than we do, have already been trying the new variation in the principal clubs, and it is said to be much approved.

A.—SECRETARY.—I. You will no doubt be a to procure any or all of the works on the game enumerated on p. 1. Sheet publisher, King William-street, Charing-cross, who keeps the library of all the best Chess books of any bookseller in London. 2. The best blank Chess diagrams and the chequers at the those printed by Messrs. Ashebe and Dangerfield, of Bedford-street, Covent-garden.

GAMMA.—We are in d'He's expectation of receiving a budget of games, contested by the élite of the Russian players. Messrs. Petroff, Jaenisch, Schumoff, and the two Princes Domitius and Sergius Ourosoff; but of our old friends of India, Mr. Cochrane and the Mosheshunder, we have had no tidings for many months.

G. T. M.—The "Terrace" Chess-board, so called from its having a raised border or frame round it, was manufactured by Mechi, and is by far the most elegant pattern of a Chess-board ever made. Some of these boards are made of wood, with massive carved oak frames; some of enamelled glass, with an elevated border of rosewood. One of the so-called "Terrace" boards is to be seen in the Royal Chess-room at the Crystal Palace, and is the most splendid and appropriate prize for a Chess-tournament that can be devised.

D. L.—The Rev. H. Bolton has long abandoned the practice of Chess and the composition of Chess Problems. In the latter department of the game he was, perhaps, unequaled.

M. A., Cambridge.—The author of the work mentioned, "The History of Civilization in England," is the Mr. Buckle so long distinguished as one of the finest Chess-players England has ever produced.

LES OFFICIERS DE L'ARCOLE.—A list of the successful solvers shall be appended to our Chess notices next week.

LILL'DELL.—Neat, but rather too easy.

LOWTHORPE.—It shall find a place in our Enigma corner.

L. B., of Brixton.—The master's hand is not so evident in the last diagram received as usual.

L.—All too simple, or too ill-constructed for publication.

* * * Communications which require consideration shall be replied to next week.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 691.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to K 4th P to Q B 4th 4. K to Q B 6th K to Q Kt 6th
2. B to Q Kt sq K to Q 4th 5. K takes P K to Q R 5th
3. K to Q 7th K takes Kt 6. B to Q B 2nd—Mate.

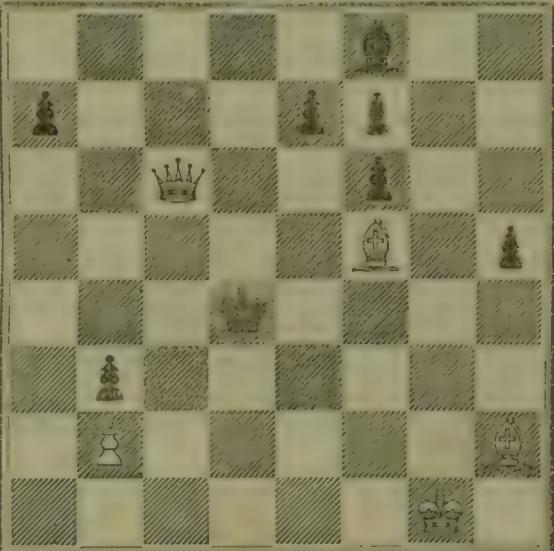
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 695.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt to Q Kt 5th Kt to K B 4th 2. Kt to Q 4th Kt tks Kt (best)
(a) 3. B to K 4th—Mate.
2. B to K 5th (ch) K to Q 6th 3. Kt to Q B 7th—Mate.

PROBLEM NO. 697.

By E. B. COOK, of Hoboken.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN GERMANY.

The following game, from the *Berliner Schachzeitung*, was contested lately between Messrs. BEZZEL and POLLMACHER, and will well repay perusal.

(French Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. P.) BLACK (Mr. B.) WHITE (Mr. P.) BLACK (Mr. B.)
1. P to K 4th P to K 3rd 25. Q takes Q (ch) Q R takes Q
2. P to Q 4th P to Q 4th 26. B to Q 3rd K R to K 6th (ch)
3. P takes P P takes P 27. K to R 2nd R takes R
4. K to B 3rd K to K B 3rd 28. Kt takes R R to Q 2nd

From this move to the end Mr. Bezzel exhibits a combination of skill and patience rarely seen in players of the present day.

29. K to Kt sq R takes Q P
30. Kt to Q Kt 2nd R to Kt 3rd
31. Kt to B 2nd K to K 2nd
32. K to K 3rd K to Q sq
33. Kt to Q B 4th K to B 3rd
34. P to K Kt 4th P to Q B 5th
35. P takes P P takes P
36. P to Q R 4th K to K 3rd
37. P to Q R 5th R to K 4th
38. P to Q R 6th K to Q 4th
39. Kt to Q R 5th R to K 5th
40. Kt to Q R 6th K to Q 5th
41. B to Q B 2nd R to Q R 6th (ch)
42. K to K 2nd R takes Q R 1'
43. Kt to Q 8th K to Q 5th
44. K to Q 2nd P to Q B 5th
45. B to K B 5th R to Q R 7th (ch)
46. B to Q B 2nd P to Q B 6th (ch)
47. K to Q B sq R to Q R 8th (ch)
48. B to Q Kt sq K to K 6th
49. Kt to Q B 6th K to K B 7th
50. Kt to Q 4th K takes P
51. Kt to K B 5th K takes P
52. Kt takes K R P to Q R 4th
53. Kt to K B 5th K takes P
54. K to Q 4th K to K R 6th
55. Kt to K 2nd P to K R 5th
56. Kt takes Q B P P to K R 6th
57. K to Q Kf 2nd P to K R 7th
58. Kt to K 2nd R to Q R 5th
59. B to K B 5th (ch) K to K R 7th
60. B to Q 7th R to K 5th

White's last two moves are mere loss of time, and his next not much better. It is surprising so good a player should be guilty of so patent an error.

17. K to R sq P to K Kt 4th
He ought to have taken the Kt with his Bishop.

18. Q B to K Kt 3rd B takes B
19. P takes B Q R to K 6th
20. Q to K B 5th

A saving clause, for if Black ventures to take the Kt he will lose the game.

20. K to B sq K to Kt 2nd was the correct move.

21. Q to K R 7th K to K 2nd

Very cleverly played. If Black take the Queen he will repeat it.

22. K R takes Kt Kt takes R

23. Q tks K B P (ch) K to Q sq

24. K takes Kt (ch) Q to K 2nd

25. Q tks Kt (ch) Q to K 2nd

26. K to Kt 4th R to K 5th

27. K to Kt 5th Kt to K 6th

28. K to K 6th K to K 7th

29. K to K 7th K to K 8th

30. K to K 8th K to K 9th

31. K to K 9th K to K 10th

32. K to K 10th K to K 11th

33. K to K 11th K to K 12th

34. K to K 12th K to K 13th

35. K to K 13th K to K 14th

36. K to K 14th K to K 15th

37. K to K 15th K to K 16th

38. K to K 16th K to K 17th

39. K to K 17th K to K 18th

40. K to K 18th K to K 19th

41. K to K 19th K to K 20th

42. K to K 20th K to K 21st

43. K to K 21st K to K 22nd

44. K to K 22nd K to K 23rd

45. K to K 23rd K to K 24th

46. K to K 24th K to K 25th

47. K to K 25th K to K 26th

48. K to K 26th K to K 27th

49. K to K 27th K to K 28th

50. K to K 28th K to K 29th

51. K to K 29th K to K 30th

52. K to K 30th K to K 31st

53. K to K 31st K to K 32nd

54. K to K 32nd K to K 33rd

55. K to K 33rd K to K 34th

56. K to K 34th K to K 35th

57. K to K 35th K to K 36th

58. K to K 36th K to K 37th

THE TURNER COLLECTION AT MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

We announced last week the Exhibition of the remaining oil pictures bequeathed by Turner to the nation, numbering some two-thirds more than those placed last winter in Marlborough House. At the same time we made a few observations respecting the broad features of Turner's mind and practice, to which we refer our readers, having no space to enter again upon extensive generalities with so much collateral interest. We shall now attempt an examination of the new pictures in detail, commencing with those painted before the year 1820, for three reasons. First, because Turner went to Rome in 1819; secondly, because he began to cease imitating other painters about this date; and, thirdly, because colour afterwards became far more conspicuous. Turner never repeated himself, and his wonderful variousness may be seen even in the titles of the following pictures. In that, during this period, he imitated so many preceding and even contemporary painters, he only followed the advice of Sir Joshua Reynolds in his Discourses, but that he did so during more than twenty years, with his impatent temperament and daring imagination, is only one of many enigmas connected with his name.

The works bearing the earliest dates (1708) are Nos. 460 and 461. They were painted when Turner was twenty-four years old, and indicate much which was characteristic of him throughout his career. The first, "Buttermere Lake, with part of Cromack Water, Cumberland—A Shower," is too black; but its aerial effects, the various depths of mountain mist and rain-cloud, are truthful, and the rainbow, though the whole picture is negative in hue, may be taken as suggesting a natural love of colour. The second, "Morning on the Coniston Fells, Cumberland," has the same qualities; with its rolling mist retiring before the morning sun, and the patch of light falling on the acclivity which brings out the solidly-painted moss-grown rocks, the rugged bed of the stream, and the flocks seeking their rough pasture.

The next picture in the catalogue, "Landscape, with Cattle in Water" (462), although bearing no date, would prove in its rich glow and perfect realisation of some of the most favourite effects of the Dutch painters a very considerable interval, if Turner were to be judged as other painters. But the bringing together all objects upon a given plane by atmospheric gradation, and the toning of a picture, which are the last qualities obtained by artists in general, we find Turner actually set out with. The cattle in this picture are really well drawn, and note the admirable liquidity of the still water, and the nicely-observed reflections from it under the animals.

"Æneas with the Sibyl, Lake Avernus" (463), is a marvellously close imitation of Wilson, though with scarcely so warm a sky as that painter would have given. The lines from the "Æneid" which accompany the title describe two separate and successive incidents, which Turner has, with the license of the old painters, represented going forward simultaneously in the picture. The classical allusions are further explained in the catalogue.

"Rizpah Watching the Bodies of her Sons" (464) illustrates, with several other works, the morbid tendency in Turner's mind to the terrible, and even the grotesque—a tendency the more singular from its coexistence with the most intense love of the beautiful. The picture can scarcely be seen at all in its present position; but, as it is the first to display a remarkable peculiarity in the artist's mind, and as we have taken more trouble to ascertain its contents than our readers will probably afford, they may thank us for a description. The subject is taken from the second book of Samuel, where it is related that the Israelites were visited with famine three years, through the murderous persecution by Saul of the Gibeonites, with whom the Jews had sworn peace and amity. To satisfy the justice of the Almighty, David was obliged to give up seven of the sons of Saul to the vengeance of the Gibeonites—the two sons of Rizpah being of the number. The wretched mother would not allow their bodies to be buried, "but took sackcloth and spread it for her upon a rock from the beginning of harvest, until water dropped upon them out of heaven, and suffered neither the birds of the air to rest on them by day, nor the beasts of the field by night" (xxi. 10). She thus broke one of the laws of the Jews, which strictly enjoined that he which is hanged, being "accursed of God," should be buried on the day of execution, that "his body might not defile the land." Mr. Ruskin, in speaking incidentally of this picture, justly remarks that it connects the English landscape-painter with the German interpreters of fantastic or pathetic superstition. Rizpah is sitting, with an old weird attendant, in a murky night—a black indistinguishable mass lying by her side, which must be the bodies of her sons, for the sack-cloth is gory beneath them. The rest of the picture is not literal representation, but may be supposed to be the ghastly apparitions and fantastic shapes evoked by the terror-stricken imagination of Rizpah. She buries her face in her hand, to shut out, on the one side, several spectral forms, revealed by an ignis fatuus gleam, who are about to slaughter an infant, while one figure stands by in statue-like fatal rigidity. On the other side, and before the miserable woman, a goblin sports with a scorpion and a monstrous dragon-fly; toads gaze, snakes glide and writhe, and from under the slimy growth of weeds fringing the margin of the inky pool, which seems to be sleeping like a type of death, a serpent has fixed upon and holds fast in its fangs another unimaginable winged creature.

The little picture, "A Mountain Scene" (465), is noteworthy among the early pictures for its freshness of colour, with its pure and tender blue sky, and the charming contrast of the white clouds against the warm colour of the tower catching the morning light.

"The Tenth Plague of Egypt" (470) is the first work of surpassing grandeur; and we doubt if, in completeness and impressive massive sublimity, it is surpassed by any picture in the collection. It is a palpable imitation of both Nicholas and Gaspar Poussin, including the anachronism of the machicolated architecture and the characters on the obelisk or slanting side of a building on the left; whilst foliage is swayed and boughs snapped with the savage fury of Salvator Rosa. The whole scene—but more particularly the finely-composed tiers and terraces of buildings on the right—is illuminated by a vivid flash of storm-lightning, which darts and pulsates from the heaving, rolling, portentous masses of thunder-cloud, which obscure the sky. The Angel of the Lord has already done his work, and the first-born of Egypt have been smitten in the death-stillness of midnight. But the Egyptians have taken the alarm, and rush frantically about in the distance with their glaring torches in vain to find the invisible destroyer. In the foreground mothers are seen mourning over their stricken offspring; and one in particular—a noble figure, sitting in a fine classical attitude—has resigned herself to absolute despair.

"The Holy Family" (473) was probably painted in rivalry with Reynolds; but the powerful effect of the background and the Titianesque depth of tone are even more "old-masterish" than Sir Joshua. The face of the Virgin is not altogether uninteresting, and the attitude of the Child is well conceived; but the vulgar type of Joseph's overgrown head, the want of expression, the absence of drawing, either of form or proportion, and the ridiculous failure of almost every attempt at foreshortening—as, for instance, in the inflated sack which stands for Joseph's body—being all found in a work in which Turner must have striven to do his best, we are little surprised at his subsequent frequent inability to introduce figures with success. Allowance must be made for his want of practice at the early period when this picture was painted (1803); but its excellence in other respects argues a want of perception of the refinements of human form, which is borne out by most of Turner's later works. Precisely the same remarks apply to the interesting portrait of Turner by himself (458), which was, however, painted before the last picture. Many passages of its flesh-tints are fine, the handling is firm, and the general effect deep and solid; but the drawing is extremely feeble, and it conveys no impression of nature or vitality.

"The Destruction of Sodom—Lot and his Family leaving the City" (474) has the characteristics of the "Tenth Plague of Egypt," except that here we are in the midst of the deafening roar and crash of actual ruin, while there we only felt the chill, brooding horror of silent destruction. Here the lightning—blue against the fire—no longer merely illuminates, but cleaves the solid masonry, and hurls over the toppling tower. Of illumination we get indeed more than enough from the great central vortex of white whirling flame, and its yellow and crimson reflection. The air is too hot for smoke; but thin,

sulphureous vapour partly veils the ghastly scene where the figures are convulsed in the last agony, and the trains of lambent flame lap up the runlets of blood, or the dead are pounded into dust by the falling rocks. From the darkest part of all this terror and confusion Lot and his family, except the spectral heap behind, are seen emerging as if enveloped in an atmosphere of pale, innocent light.

"The Blacksmith's Shop" (478) is said to have been painted in consequence of the great praise awarded to Wilkie's "Village Politicians" the year before. The general effect, we need not say, is excellent; and the relative distance of the three compartments of the shop is graduated with an aerial truth for which Wilkie would have substituted glazed and bituminous depth. But beyond this the picture contains much excellent painting of detail, and its precision of touch Turner has not equalled in any other work. The poultry, the vice, the pots, pans, and kettles on the left, and the old brick wall with the plaster peeled off, are really capital. The pony is rather a queer animal, but the man stoops well to shoe him; and the two gossips are admirably idle and listless in their disputation. "Harvest Home" (562), an elaborately-planned but unfinished picture, also connects in the Scotchman taking snuff, the woman's cap, &c., a palpable intention of rivalling Wilkie.

"The Death of Nelson" (480) is a terrific realisation of that most awful form of human strife—a sea fight; and a magnificent commemoration of, to our mind, the most touching and heroic incident in modern warfare. The spectator is placed on the mizen starboard shrouds of the *Victory*, and thus obtains, as well as may be through the smoke, a half "bird's-eye" view of the whole slippery bloody deck, with the sailors struggling at the gun carriages, the group surrounding the wounded Nelson, and some brawny fellows hauling on board the flag of the enemy's ship, which has struck on the larboard, one of whom is calling the dying hero's attention to their prize. Over the sides of the ship, from which the guns under our feet flash in fierce unanimity, the *Redoubtable* is seen, from "the tops" of which that shot was fired which pierced a nation's heart. Beyond these foremost ships, through wreaths of smoke and piles of battle fog, the hulls of the great ships loom with their apparent elevation and gigantic bulk, greatly increased from the peculiar point of view chosen. Overhead the splintered masts, the torn and flapping sails, and the cloven cordage, form a mass of inextricable confusion, which completes an effect of terror—of life or death pertinacity—of thunderous roar and din and of horrible carnage, such as we never before saw realised on canvas, and which entitles this picture to rank as the grandest representation of such a scene.

There is another picture of the "Battle of Trafalgar" (556), in many respects remarkable, though only entitled "A Sketch."

(To be continued.)

Differences.

I.

The King can drink the best of wine—
So can I;
And has enough when he would dine—
So have I;
And cannot order Rain or Shine—
Nor can I.
Then where's the difference—let me see—
Betwixt my Lord the King and me?

II.

Do trusty friends surround his throne
Night and day?
Or make his interest their own?
No, not they.
Mine love me for myself alone—
Bless'd be they!
And that's one difference which I see
Betwixt my lord the King and me.

III.

Do knaves around me lie in wait
To deceive,
Or fawn and flatter when they hate,
And would grieve?
Or cruel pomps oppress my state,—
By my leave?
No! Heaven be thanked! And here you see
More difference 'twixt the King and me!

IV.

He has his fools, with jests and quips,
When he'd play;
He has his armies and his ships—
Great are they;
But not a child to kiss his lips,
Well-a-day!
And that's a difference sad to see
Betwixt my lord the King and me.

V.

I wear the cap and he the crown—
What of that?
I sleep on straw and he on down—
What of that?
And he's the King and I'm the clown—
What of that?
If happy I, and wretched he,
Perhaps the King would change with me!

CHARLES MACKAY.

THE TOLL NUISANCE.—At the last weekly meeting of the Representative Council of St. Pancras, on a proposition being brought forward by Mr. G. A. Young, as chairman of the committee of works, to raise £80,000 as a first instalment of the sum of £100,000 for paving the Hampstead-road, New-road, and Gray's-inn-road—which the mover subsequently amended to a vote for £20,000—the following amendment was carried on the motion of Mr. Brettingham:—"That looking at the present high rate of interest, and the probability of having the turnpike-roads thrown upon the parish, it is not expedient to borrow more than £6000 for the paving of the New-road with granite." An important point was mentioned by Mr. Young in the course of his speech, viz.:—"There could be no doubt that the present evasion of the public toll tended greatly to the injury of that parish, as it not only cut up the parochial roads, but was a source of great inconvenience and nuisance to the inhabitants of residential streets. He hoped the day was not far distant when the tolls would be abolished."

HIGHWAYS AND TURNPIKES.—Mr. Massey's new bill has just been printed. It gives power to the intended new highway boards to meet and resolve that turnpike roads out of debt shall be converted into highways; and, on the Secretary of State approving, all turnpike gates and bars in such selected districts are to be abolished; but, by clause 4, the metropolis and all the parishes in the area of the Metropolitan Board of Works are specially excepted from the Act. Government has already removed the toll-gates in Dublin, has a bill in Parliament to clear all Ireland from them, and now, when the English measure is produced, the metropolis is excepted. Is London to be the only spot with these obstructions?

A colossal block has been placed in the studio of Mr. John Steel, for the statue of Allan Ramsay, the poet, about to be erected on the terrace of Ramsay-gardens. The block is from Blinny quarry, and is considered a very fine specimen. Its weight is about sixteen tons.

CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURE GALLERY.

It is probable that, had the Crystal Palace been, from the first, a highly remunerative speculation, we should not have seen its management with untiring energy catering for the instruction and amusement of visitors by every branch of nature and art that can be conveniently displayed in this building. The dividends of the capitalists have not answered their expectations. But we must say the public would be indeed insatiable if it was not sensible of the extraordinary exertions that have been made to provide fare of a solid description, which goes far to make up for the cardinal error, *ab initio*, of making any place of exhibition so far out of town, and involving the consumption of so much time going and coming. When at length we do get there, it must be admitted that the entertainments are not at all of a claptrap description; and, from the monster Handel Festival to the gigantic pine of California, we find ourselves amidst efforts to present real superiority.

The Picture Gallery, being an after-thought, and having to deal with special rivals, made last year a rather unpromising début. It is, however, only justice to Mr. Megford, the director, to say that this is a growing institution, and that in time we look forward to its being a most attractive portion of the Palace, as much as it introduces us to a greater variety of schools than we find elsewhere. We proceed to notice what appear to us to be the best of the new pictures of the season.

A landscape by Zimmermann, of Munich, representing a dark-wooded and rocky dell, the vast trunks of trees showing firm handling, and the water and aquatic vegetation to correspond. The feeling of the sombre loneliness of the depths of a forest, where primeval trees have for centuries known nothing of the woodman's axe, is given with the most signal ability. But there appears to us to be an inconsistency between the size of the stag and the trees—either the stag is much too small, or the trees are, to take the stag as a meter, much too gigantic for Europe in general, and reminding us of the growths of America.

Of an opposite description, and to us a preferable picture, is Garritt's "Coast of Naples," representing an open expanse of coast, evidently in winter, but with admirable sunlight, moderately warming every part of the picture: it is not the fierce heat and intense azure of summer, but a fine winter sunset, on the Campanian coast: the high-walled villa garden, the cypress, the sea, the red gold mountain slopes, recall the land of citron bloom with great effect. As a vivid reminiscence of the most picturesque part of Italy this picture appears to us to be unexceptionable. The outline is firm, as it ought to be, and the subject comprises with felicity the chief characteristics of this description of scenery.

"The Intercepted Letter," by Baron Jolly, a Belgian General. This picture represents a château of the seventeenth century, in which a young lady is caught in correspondence. It is weak in expression, but the still life is every bit as good as that of Netscher, and other men who imitated satins and velvets, marble and wood, with such perfection. But why not give us actual modern Belgian life? Netscher painted the life and manners of his own day, not those of Charles the Bold. The historical painter may go back, but *genre* ought to be the glass of fashion—the mirror of actual life: it thus becomes historical to posterity.

There are other pictures of Netherlands painters that please us extremely—Pieron's view of a white house in the environs of Antwerp, and Roelof's "Spring." The former has a touch and a glaze of verdant earth and clod that reminds us of Wynants, and there is an unassuming strength of tone that shows the landscape-painter of genuine power. The finish is everywhere careful, but quite subordinate to breadth of effect. The other picture, Roelof's "Spring," is a perfect little piece of local nature, with just that sparkling relief of general green which the wild flowers give at the opening of the year.

We go hastily over some other pictures, foremost among which is a very fine portrait of the Empress of the French, by Rouget, in the most silvery tone.

Landscape with Moslem figures are now more common than they were some years ago. We have M. Fladins view of the great Mosque of Ispahan. This gentleman, along with M. Pascal Coste, accompanied the mission of M. de Sercey, seven years ago, to Persia, and the result was a rich addition to our archaeological illustrations of that country. The subject of this picture is one of the most striking to be met with in the East. Another picture, a view in Algeria, by Grolig, of Versailles, gives us the winter fog and stunted vegetation of a part of this French possession, treated in the modern German landscape manner. Couturier's fowls show great study of the nature and aspects of poultry; and a "Cattle Piece," by Troyon, illustrative of bovine affections, has that truth of observation and breadth without coarseness of handling which he is known to possess. A replica of Biard's most amusing "Custom-house Examination of Baggage" has renewed our acquaintance with a well-known and popular picture. Ley's in "A Woman Pleading," shows fine chiaroscuro, but a farcical outline that spoils all.

FINE ARTS.

GALVANO-PHOTOGRAPHY.—PHOTOGRAPHIC ART-TREASURES.

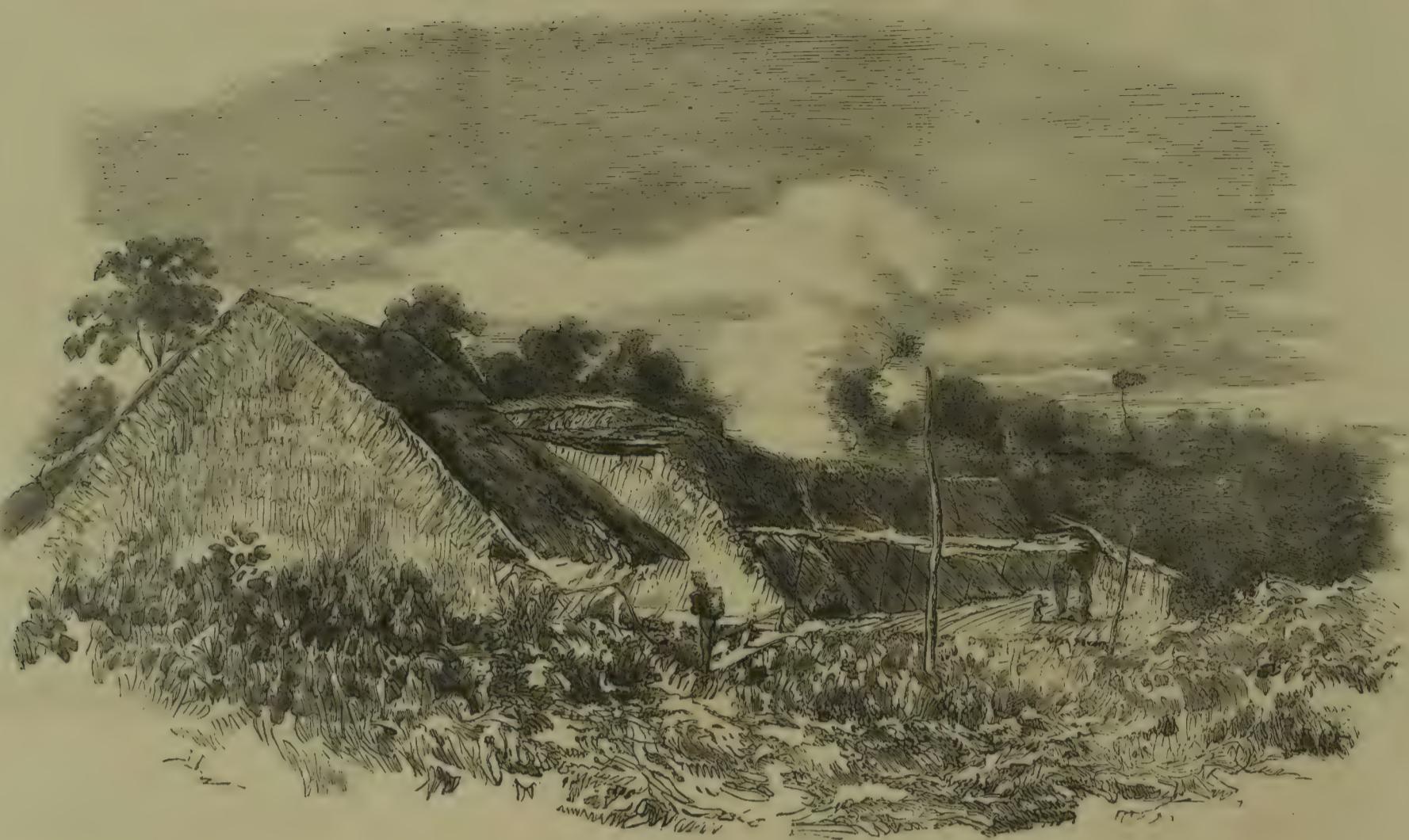
Part IV.

We have already noticed this ingenious and beautiful invention of Herr Preisch, director of the Imperial Printing Press of Vienna, by which galvanism engraves on plates the pictures obtained by sunlight, or, as the agents of this company say, by which "nature and art are illustrated by art and nature." The publications of the Patent Photo-galvanographic Company come so fully up to whatever expectations were formed of this process that we anticipate for Herr Preisch a place in the future history of the development of this department of science scarcely, if at all, inferior to that of M. Daguerre. It is only necessary to look at this publication and be convinced that the ordinary draughtsman and lithographic-engraver can no more ultimately stand his ground against this invention than the handloom weaver could resist the combination of the steam-engine of Watt and the spinning-jenny of Arkwright. Here is a delicacy, a verisimilitude, and a minuteness which must be the despair of hundreds of deserving artists who have, by long years of painful effort, attained a point which might be denominated "labour in vain." Take, for instance, the view in this number of "Richmond-on-Thames," photographed by R. F. Barnes. The time is winter, the leaves are off the trees, and the snow is on the roofs. Yet, wholly unaided by colour, we feel such a perfect concordance of the gradations and sharp contrasts of tint that we are at once impressed with an exhilarating feeling of a select type of truth. We are persuaded that the effect would be greatly heightened by a broad border of absolute jet black. The gist of the effect is in the highest lights to which the broad white rim is too powerful a rival. In "A Brace of Birds," photographed by Mr. Lake Price, where the ground is black the converse holds good; there the white border brings out the osseous. As for the details of the feathers, they are so perfect that memory is compelled at once to suggest the colour of each part, and complete the picture to the mind's eye. Higher praise we cannot give. The variety of subjects is one of the charms of this publication. How different from the birds, with their black ground, is the finely luminous horizon of Sidney Cooper's "Cattle"! How it trembles on that lazy river!

This invention is a terrible blow to the ordinary draughtsman and engraver; but, as Campanella says, "Society is built of ruins; the ruins are men, but the edifice is humanity."

THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.—The committee of this charity announce in their ninety-ninth annual report the proposed celebration of its centenary. The committee have recommended, and the governors of the charity have agreed, that the most suitable mode of commemorating the centenary will be so to enlarge the present building, which is admirably adapted for the purpose, as to provide accommodation for 400 orphan children instead of 210, for which it was originally intended. To do this, and to provide for their maintenance, clothing, and education, a sum of at least £25,000 will be required. During the last ten years 510 children have been admitted to the benefits of the charity, but the candidates are at least four times as many as those that succeed. Already several donations varying from one guinea to 100 guineas have been received, and a considerable amount is promised.

SKETCHES IN BORNEO.



RAPANG, A VILLAGE OF THE STUNG TRIBE OF DYAKS.

BRUNI.

In the year 1521 Magellan first saw Borneo. No other European had previously seen it. Three hundred years, or rather more, elapsed before any innovation was made. The English were then necessitated to interfere in certain differences at Sarawak, and to demand of the Sultan of Brunei that respect should be shown to the British flag. Some years since this town was visited by Rajah Brooke. On his arrival he found it a "Venice of hovels," as it has been called. It is the capital of Borneo Proper, situated up a river, ten miles from the sea. Most of the houses are built on piles, the remainder being erected on the ground. At the back of these tenements the hills gradually rise, with the upas and other trees growing on them, as delineated in the Engraving. At a distance the locality is miserable to behold; but on a near approach the lively and busy aspect which usually pervades the town produces a very different impression. There being no shops in Brunei, bargaining in many sorts of articles is pursued in the little craft which lie off the town. Several Chinese junks navigate the river.

Indeed, there is more commercial intercourse with China than with Europe. There are two streets in the town, intersecting each other, forming an irregular cross, and dividing it into four sections. The palace is large, but as inconvenient as the houses. Iron is so scarce as to be sufficiently valuable to be used as money. The lower orders of people wear a conical straw hat, with a very wide brim; and others are but slenderly clothed. The population (whose number is uncertain) chiefly consist of Malays, who indicate their citizenship by calling themselves Brunese. The Dyaks nearer the centre of the island are more barbarous than those residing on the coast, upon whom civilisation has produced its ameliorating effects. Borneo exports gold, diamonds, and antimony—the last being the most valuable. The Rajahs who preceded Sir James Brooke, perceiving the wealth which this metal would produce, compelled the Dyaks to become their slaves in working the mines. This cruel policy led first to a dispute, and then to an insurrection. Rajah Brooke interceded and defended their cause. The cession of Sarawak was the result of the struggle. It is only recently that news has arrived thence of another affray of a

serious character, in which the Rajah almost sacrificed his life, and suffered the loss of valuable property. It is to be hoped that our new Plenipotentiary to China will be enabled to allay existing differences, and place the principles of our intercourse with the Chinese upon an amicable basis.

RAPANG, VILLAGE OF THE STUNG TRIBE OF DYAKS.

THIS picturesque village is situated in the province belonging to Rajah Brooke. It consists of one immense hut and a smaller one. These huts are built of bamboo, and have roofs formed of the nipa palm. The whole structure is built on stout bamboo posts, which elevate the buildings above the thick jungle. In front is a terrace. The dwellings, which all communicate with each other, are longitudinally divided by a partition. One half of the dwellings nearest the terrace are used as a place of reception and accommodation for visitors. The other half of the buildings form the living place of the inmates.



BRUNI, THE CAPITAL OF BORNEO PROPER.

D A N I S H C O S T U M E S.



HOLIDAY DRESS, LÆSØ.

WE have been favoured by a Correspondent at Copenhagen with the accompanying characteristic Illustrations of Danish life, from coloured drawings by M. F. C. Lund, of Læsø. The first and second figures wear peasants' dresses from Læsø, an island situated in the Kattegat. First is a Sunday dress, consisting of a cambric handkerchief as head-gear; a black velvet bodice, under which is a small waistcoat laced with a silver chain; the four large buttons on the bodice are also of silver, sometimes the two upper ones are even of gold. The skirt and apron are of rich brocaded silk, the skirt generally of light blue, and the apron lilac, yellow, or white.

The second figure wears a week-day dress. The head-dress is larger, of home-made linen, with fringe. The bodice is of blue cloth, the skirt of a green woollen stuff, made by the peasants themselves; and the apron is of gingham.

The island of Kattegat is quite flat. As peculiarities may be named every house has its own small windmill and high flag-stand, employed for signals. The houses are thatched with seaweed, from four to five feet thick; the top of the roof is flat, and used as a look-out. The inhabitants live from fishing and shipwrecks: the cultivation of land is not regarded, and principally attended to by the females.



EVERY-DAY DRESS, LÆSØ.

The third figure wears a Sunday dress from Finir, a small island in the Læsø-Fjord. The dress consists of home-made coarse cloth; the hair is worn long, but formerly the custom was to wear it much longer.

The island is known in the old history of Denmark, and many fabulous tales about elves and fairies are connected with it, and still believed in by the poorer classes. On the island is found an immense stone, with a hollow like an entrance, whence the elves and fairies are said to come forth in the night.

Fourthly is a bride from Fano, an island situated on the southwest coast of Jutland. Her dress is of black cloth, trimmed with



SUNDAY DRESS, FANO.



BRIDAL DRESS, FANO.

velvet; the apron is of white calico; the head-dress of artificial flowers, gold and silver ribbons. On the wedding-day a bride wears nine skirts, otherwise only seven; it is remarkable that the females only on their wedding-day show their hair; it is considered a shame for a woman to show her hair to a man before or after that day, wherefore they always wear a tightly-bound handkerchief over their head, and even sleep with it. The island is flat; towards the German Ocean are the renowned sandhills (sandkitter). The men are good sailors, and get their living on the sea; the cultivation of the land is carried on by the women.

THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

ON Monday afternoon the first of the three general Conferences to be held with a view of fully discussing the Educational question in all its bearings, especially in relation to the early age at which the children of the working classes are removed from school, was held at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of his Royal Highness Prince Albert and a number of distinguished noblemen and gentlemen. Long before the hour fixed for the Prince to take the chair the room was completely crowded, and the reception accorded to his Royal Highness on his arrival was most warm and flattering. Seated near his Royal Highness, on either side, were Earl Granville, the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of St. Asaph, Bishop of London, Bishop of Durham, Bishop of Sodor and Man, Bishop of Winchester, Bishop of Manchester, Lord Brougham, Lord Ward, Lord Calthorpe, Sir John Pakington, Lord Kinnaird, Mr. Robert Owen, Rev. Canon Moseley, Major-General Grey, Miss Carpenter, Rev. W. Rogers, &c.

His Royal Highness, who on his rising was received with prolonged cheering, immediately proceeded to address the meeting as follows:—

Gentlemen, we have met to-day in the sacred cause of education—of national education. This word, which means no less than the moral and intellectual development of the rising generation, and, therefore, the national welfare, is well calculated to engross our minds, and opens a question worthy of a nation's deepest interest and most anxious consideration.

Gentlemen, the nation is alive to its importance, and our presence here to-day gives further evidence (if such evidence were needed) of its anxiety to give it that consideration (Hear, hear).

Looking to former times, we find that our forefathers, with their wonted piety and paternal care, had established a system of national education, based upon the parish organisation and forming part of parish life, which met the wants of their day, and had in it a certain unity and completeness which we may well envy at the present moment. But in the progress of time our wants have outstripped that system, and the condition of the country has so completely changed, even within these last fifty years, that the old parochial division is no longer adequate for the present population. This has increased during that period in England and Wales from, in round numbers, 9,000,000 to 18,000,000, and, where there formerly existed comparatively small towns and villages, we now see mighty cities like Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Leeds, Birmingham, and others, with their hundreds of thousands, springing up almost, as it were, by enchantment, London having increased to nearly two-and-a-half million of souls, and the factory district of Lancashire alone having aggregated a population of nearly 3,000,000, within a radius of thirty miles! This change could not escape the watchful eye of a patriotic public; but how to provide the means of satisfying the new wants could not be a matter of easy solution. While zeal for the public good, a fervent religious spirit, and true philanthropy are qualities eminently distinguishing our countrymen, the love of liberty and an aversion from being controlled by the power of the State in matters nearest to their hearts, are feelings, which will always most powerfully influence them in action. Thus the common object has been contemplated from the most different points of view, and pursued often upon antagonistic principles. Some have sought the aid of Government, others that of the church to which they belong; some have declared it to be the duty of the State to provide elementary instruction for the people at large; others have seen in State interference a check to the spontaneous exertions of the people themselves, and an interference with self-government; some again have advocated a plan of compulsory education based upon local self-government, and others the voluntary system in its widest development. While these have been some of the political subjects of difference, those in the religious field have not been less marked and potent. We find, on the one hand, the wish to see secular and religious instruction separated; and the former recognised as an innate and inherent right, to which each member of society has a claim, and which ought not to be denied to him if he refuses to take along with it the inculcation of a particular dogma to which he objects as unsound; while we see, on the other hand, the doctrine asserted that no education can be sound which does not rest on religious instruction, and that religious truth is too sacred to be modified and tampered with, even in its minutest deductions, for the sake of procuring a general agreement (Much cheering.) Gentlemen, if these differences were to have been discussed here to-day I should not have been able to respond to your invitation to take the chair, as I should have thought it inconsistent with the position which I occupy and with the duty which I owe to the Queen and the country at large. I see those here before me who have taken a leading part in these important discussions, and I am happy to meet them upon a neutral ground; happy to find that there is a neutral ground upon which their varied talents and abilities can be brought to bear in communion upon the common object; and proud and grateful to them that they should have allowed me to preside over them for the purpose of working together in the common vineyard. I feel certain that the greatest benefit must arise to the cause we have all so much at heart by the mere free exchange of your thoughts and various experience. You may well be proud, gentlemen, of the results hitherto achieved by your rival efforts, and may point to the fact that, since the beginning of the century, while the population has doubled itself, the number of schools, both public and private, has been multiplied fourteen times. In 1801 there were in England and Wales, of public schools, 2,576; of private schools, 487: total, 3,263. In 1861 (the year of the Census) there were in England and Wales, of public schools, 15,518; of private schools, 30,524: total, 46,042; giving instruction in all to 2,144,378 scholars; of whom 1,422,982 belong to public schools, and 721,396 to the private schools. The rate of progress is further illustrated by statistics which show that in 1818 the proportion of day scholars to the population was 1 in 17; in 1833, 1 in 11; and in 1851, 1 in 8. These are great results, although I hope they may only be received as instants of what has yet to be done. But what must be your feelings when you reflect upon the fact, the inquiry into which has brought us together, that this great boon thus obtained for the mass of the people, and which is freely offered to them, should have been only partially accepted, and, upon the whole, so insufficiently applied as to render its use almost valueless? (Hear.) We are told that the total population in England and Wales of children between the ages of three and fifteen being estimated at 4,908,696 only 2,046,848 attend school at all, while 2,861,848 receive no instruction whatever. At the same time an analysis of the scholars with reference to the length of time allowed for their school tuition shows that 42 per cent of them have been at school less than one year; 22 per cent during one year; 15 per cent during two years; 9 per cent during three years; 5 per cent during four years; and 4 per cent during five years. Therefore, out of the two millions of scholars alluded to, more than one million and a half remain only two years at school. I leave it to you to judge what the results of such an education can be. I find further that of these two millions of children attending school only about 600,000 are above the age of nine. Gentlemen, these are startling facts, which render it evident that no extension of the means of education will be of any avail unless this evil, which lies at the root of the whole question, be removed, and that it is high time that the country should become thoroughly awake to its existence, and prepared to meet it energetically. To impress this upon the public mind is the object of our conference. Public opinion is the powerful lever which in these days moves a people for good and for evil, and to public opinion we must therefore appeal if we would achieve any lasting and beneficial result. You, gentlemen, will richly add to the services which you have already rendered to the noble cause if you will prepare public opinion by your inquiry into this state of things, and by discussing in your sections the causes of it as well as the remedies which may lie within our reach (Cheers). This will be no easy matter; but, even if your labours should not result in the adoption of any immediate practical steps, you will have done great good in preparing for them. It will probably happen that, in this instance as in most others, the cause which produces the evil will be more easily detected than its remedy, and yet a just appreciation of the former must ever be the first and essential condition for the discovery of the latter. You will probably trace the cause of our social condition to a state of ignorance and lethargic indifference on the subject among the parents generally; but the root of the evil will, I suspect, also be found to extend into that field on which the political economist exercises his activity—i.e. mean the labour market—demand and supply (Hear). To dissipate that ignorance and rouse from that lethargy may be difficult, but with the united and earnest efforts of all who are the friends of the working classes it ought, after all, to be only a question of time. What measures can be brought to bear upon the other root of the evil is a more delicate question, and will require the greatest care in handling, for there you cut into the very quick of the working man's condition. His children are not only his offspring, to be reared for a future independent position, but they constitute part of his productive power and work with him for the staff of life; the daughters especially are the handmaids of the house, the assistants of the mother, the nurses of the younger children, the aged, and the sick. To deprive the labouring family of their help would be almost to paralyse its domestic existence (Cheers). On the other hand, carefully-collected statistics reveal to us the fact that while about 600,000 children between the ages of three

and fifteen are absent from school, but known to be employed, no less than 2,200,000 are not at school, whose absence cannot be traced to any ascertained employment or other legitimate cause. You will have to work, then, upon the minds and hearts of the parents, to place before them the irreparable mischief which they inflict upon those who are intrusted to their care by keeping them from the light of knowledge, to bring home to their convictions that it is their duty to exert themselves for their children's education; bearing in mind, at the same time, that it is not only their most sacred duty, but also their highest privilege. Unless they work with you, your work, our work, will be vain; but you will not fail, I feel sure, in obtaining their co-operation if you remind them of their duty to their God and Creator (Cheers). Our heavenly Father in his boundless goodness, has made his creatures that they should be happy; and in his wisdom has fitted his means to his ends, giving to all of them different qualities or faculties in using and developing which they fulfil their destiny; and, running their uniform course according to his prescription, they find that happiness which he has intended for them. Man alone is born into this world with faculties far nobler than the other creatures, reflecting the image of him who has willed that there should be beings on earth to know and worship him; but endowed with the power of self-determination—having reason given him for his guide. He can develop his faculties, place himself in harmony with his Divine prototype, and attain that happiness which is offered to him on earth, to be completed hereafter in entire union with him through the mercy of Christ. But he can also leave these faculties unimproved, and miss his mission on earth. He will then sink to the level of the lower animals, forfeit happiness, and separate from his God, whom he did not know how to find (Much cheering). Gentlemen, I say man has no right to do this; he has no right to throw off the task which is laid upon him for his happiness; it is his duty to fulfil his mission to the utmost of his power; but it is our duty, the duty of those whom Providence has removed from this awful struggle and placed beyond this fearful danger, manifold, unceasingly, and untiringly to aid by advice, assistance, and example, the great bulk of the people, who, without such aid, must almost inevitably succumb to the difficulty of their task. They will not cast from them the aiding hand, and the Almighty will bless the labours of those who work in His cause. (His Royal Highness concluded amid continued and enthusiastic cheering.)

The Secretary then read the report, which recapitulated the various points of interest dwelt upon in the speech of the Prince Consort.

Lord Brougham next addressed the meeting, and went at length into a history of the efforts which had been made in the cause of educational progress by Mr. W. Allen and Mr. Fox, by the late Duke of Bedford, and the much-abused Educational Committee of the House of Commons. In spite of the blame which had been thrown upon the last-named committee, he considered that it had effected much good. In the present state of affairs he believed that a great deal might be done by enlisting on their side the great employers of labour, and by means of the masters influencing the men to avail themselves more extensively of the means of education for their children which were brought within their reach.

The Bishop of Oxford said that, with the blessing of God, he believed the greatest results would be derived to the cause of education from the exertions of the present Conferences. The difficulty which they had to overcome was not to provide schools for children, but children for the schools. They must first discover the cause of this evil before they could offer to administer to its cure. He believed that, over and above the causes for the absence of young children from the schools, which had been so well and lucidly exhibited in the speech of his Royal Highness, there was another reason, and that was the want of firm authority on the part of parents, and the want of a willing obedience on the part of the children (Hear). He believed that that was one great cause of the evil they lamented, and it was one only to be done away with by awakening the minds of the working classes to the responsibility that laid upon them in this matter. They must exert themselves to show to the vast body of parents that the use of the schools was a positive and certain gain to their children, but for this purpose they must be united among themselves, and the disputes and differences as to the boon to be given cease. The present Conference would do much to heal such divisions among the general promoters of education; and, but for the unhappy differences that had existed, he believed the strong moral sense of the people of England would of itself have done away with all the needless causes for suspicion.

The Rev. Canon Moseley discussed the question of the causes which led the children of working men to be so early removed from school. Between the ages of eight and nine years they began to leave, at the age of eleven most left, and at the age of twelve years they would scarcely find any of the working man's family at school. The average age at which this schooling terminated was ten and a half years. It was not possible to connect a child of ten and a half years old with the idea of an educated being, and it was not possible to impart to his mind at that tender age all the information and education which the man would want through life.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert then formally declared the Educational Conference opened, and adjourned the proceedings till twelve o'clock the next day.

SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY.

On Tuesday morning the members assisting at these important conferences met to pursue their inquiries and discussions at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's. On this occasion there was no general meeting of the whole body, as the object of the day's proceedings was to hear papers read on the causes which impeded the general progress of education, the state of education abroad, &c., and to encourage a discussion of the various suggestions to which they gave rise. This business was therefore distributed among five sections, which met in different rooms, and were presided over by different chairmen.

All the rooms in which the sectional meetings were held were much crowded throughout the day, the great majority of the audience in most cases being clergymen connected with schools for the children of the working classes in all parts of the country. In

SECTION A

the Bishop of Oxford presided, except during a brief interval when he was compelled to attend at her Majesty's Drawingroom, when the Bishop of Durham filled the chair till his return.

The first paper read was one by the Rev. Mr. Mitchell, one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, "On the evidence afforded by the reports of her Majesty's Inspectors as to the early age at which children are taken away from school," and which stated that 66 per cent of the children of the working classes remained beyond their tenth year at school, but only 6 per cent completed their fourteenth year there. Ten years, however, formed the usual age at which the children quitted.

The second paper was by Mr. Flint, on the same subject, with special reference to schools not under Government inspection, and which entered into elaborate statistics as to the ages when the children quitted school in all parts of England, and even in different parts of the same county.

A third brief paper on the same subject, especially with reference to lengthening the term of education, by Mr. Baines, was then read, after which the sections proceeded to discuss the questions raised.

The next paper was Mr. Goodman's, on the result of returns from Birmingham, showing the degrees in which labour and idleness respectively interfere with education, which pointed out with much clearness the causes which led to the demand for children's labour, and the various reasons which induced the parents to prefer the factory to the school. A brief paper on the same subject by the Rev. S. Earnshaw, of Sheffield, having also been read, the discussion was resumed, many of the speakers being in favour of some species of legislative compulsion, in order to the proper education of the children of the working classes—an Act to operate in the same manner as the Factory Act.

SECTION B.

The business appointed for consideration by this section, presided over by the Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., was the inquiry into the circumstances attending the removal of children from the schools in Continental countries, with a view to seeing how far that removal took place at a later or an earlier age as compared with the same event in these countries.

The proceedings were opened by Mr. Joseph Kay, who, in a paper of great research and ability, took a sketch of the rapid increase of population in the manufacturing districts in Lancashire, showing that it had far outgrown the ordinary means of education; the consequence of which was that the children of the working classes were allowed to remain, not only in a filthy and squalid state as regarded their physical condition, but socially were trained up in habits of vice and crime, as the large number of convictions of children of this class fully showed. In Switzerland, in Holland, Denmark, and throughout nearly the whole of Germany, all the children between the ages of five and fifteen years were compelled to attend school, and were thus saved from the moral and physical evils arising from the want of a proper system of supervision.

The next paper read was one by M. Eugène Rendu, of the Ministry of Instruction in France, upon the system of the primary schools and industrial training. The evil of an early removal of the children from schools was, it stated, severely felt in France.

The Rev. Mr. Glenny next read a paper from the Rev. Dr. Matter, of Strasbourg, formerly inspector of schools under the Government of Louis Philippe. The early removal of children from school prevailed, he said, less in the mining than in the agricultural and manufacturing districts of France. The last was on the state of education in Germany, by Captain Boscombe Ibbetson. It assumed that the system there in vogue was perfect, and attributed such perfection to the liberality of the Government and of the municipal bodies, to the certainty of employment which those who proved their attainments by a public examination enjoyed, to the gradation of schools, to the mingling of amusement with study, and to a proper system of school inspection.

SECTION C.

The chair in this section was taken by Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, supported by the Rev. Canon Moseley, Canon Melville, Lord Kinnaird, Sir John Pakington, &c.

The Rev. J. P. Norris, one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, read

the first paper—"On the working of the Staffordshire certificate and registration scheme, and on the best method for its extension to all." In these schools certificates of attendance at school were required until the children had received a certain amount of education, and efforts were made with employers to take those children into employ with such certificates, in preference to those not possessing them. He would recommend the formation of a central board in London, in conjunction with whom local committees could be formed, and thus extend the system throughout the kingdom.

The Rev. W. J. Kennedy, one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, "on the principles to be observed in promoting school attendance," after alluding to the causes for irregular attendance at school, which he considered to be the indifference of parents, the poverty of parents, and the demand for juvenile labour, he came to the proposals for their remedy, which, he thought, were to be found, in some degree, in Mr. Tremenheere's plan for voluntary association of the educated classes for examination of the children of the poor, with prizes and certificates.

Papers on similar subjects having also been read by the Rev. Nash Stephenson, of Birmingham, Mr. S. Tremenheere, and Mr. T. Hare, the whole subject was discussed at length. A resolution was carried to be laid before the final meeting, to the effect that the certificate and prize schemes were worthy of more extended trial, but that such a plan should only be regarded as subsidiary to other agencies for acting upon the irregularity and insufficiency of the time of school attendance.

SECTION D.

In this section, which was presided over by the Very Rev. H. P. Hamilton, M.A., F.R.S., Dean of Salisbury, Mr. Alexander Redgrave, Inspector of Factories, read a paper "On the operation of the half-time system in factories." Subsequently the Rev. C. H. Bromby, of the Cheltenham Training School, delivered an address "On voluntary half-time schemes."

The next paper was read by the Rev. P. Marshall, of Hull, and was upon "Factory Education, with Suggestions for Improvement." The deficiencies in factory education arose (he said) from the new social phenomena which have been developed in the growth of our manufacturing population.

Mr. E. Chadwick, giving the results of his experience as a member of the Factory Commission, moved a resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Akroyd, M.P.:—"That, in the opinion of this section, the careful examination of the results of instruction in good half-time schools, as compared with the results of instruction for the ordinary full time in the same or the like schools, is fraught with most important conclusions, affecting the whole scheme of education for the labouring classes." Mr. Akroyd, M.P., gave an interesting account of his own schools at Halifax.

Mr. J. T. Bunce read a paper on "Feeding and Evening Schools." He recommended the extension of schools in which food should be given to the children, and work received from them in return; and he cited the instance of such a school successfully carried on in Birmingham.

Mr. I. F. Winfield, of Birmingham, then read a paper upon "The Importance of Factory Schools, and of Evening Factory Schools especially," as a remedy for the evils existing in the hardware districts from the too early employment of children.

With this paper, which was much applauded by the company, the reading of papers terminated.

After a very long discussion, the resolutions to be submitted to the general meeting, suggesting remedies for the evils pointed out in the various papers, were eventually carried.

SECTION E.

This was a supplemental section, formed after the meeting of Monday, to dispose of the surplus papers which it was found impossible for the other sections to consider in the time allotted for their sittings. The chair was taken by the Very Rev. Dean of Bristol. The first paper read was "On Juvenile Delinquency in its Relation to Ignorance," by Miss Carpenter. It commenced by remarking upon the evil influence exercised by the juvenile delinquent class upon the morals of the youth with whom they came in contact, to which evil influences, acting upon ignorant minds, it traced the greater portion of the juvenile crime of England, and then went into a lengthened series of statistics, founded upon the report of the police of Liverpool, which showed that a very small percentage of the persons who were accused of crimes had any education deserving of the name.

After the reading a lengthened discussion followed upon the genuineness of the statistics contained in the paper, and a resolution was eventually passed calling the attention of the Conference to the recommendation relative to ragged schools.

The second paper was by Mr. J. Symons, one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, "On Industrial Training, as an adjunct to School Teaching." Mr. Symons stated that the average time occupied in the education of the middle and upper classes was about six years, while in the lower classes it seldom exceeded three or four; consequently, the greatest advantage ought to be taken of that short period during which the children were under their care, and the best instruction, both in quantity and kind, provided for them.

After some short discussion upon the topics of the paper, a resolution was founded on its recommendation, which was carried in due form.

The third paper was by the Rev. Mr. Girdlestone,—"Will an improvement in the dwellings of the labouring classes have any influence on the value which they attach to the education of their children, and can any use be made of the electoral franchise in the same direction?" He said that in estimating the progress they had made in education it was necessary for them to distinguish between school-rooms and schools. The former was like a clock-case without its works. They had school-houses enough throughout the country, but the scholars and the internal arrangements were often wanting. From his own experience, he had known that where the dwellings of the parents were of a clean and orderly description there was nearly always a desire to send their children to school.

The two remaining papers were read—one by Mr. W. L. Sargent, on the proposed middle-class examinations as a means of stimulating the education of the lower classes; and the other by the Rev. H. G. Robinson, of the Training School, York, entitled "Suggestions of plans for retaining children at school till a more advanced age," which latter proposed that the Committee of Council should establish a member of distinction, both honorary and substantial, as well as exhibitors, to give the poorer class a fair chance of obtaining a good situation by

That throughout the north of Europe the children of the working classes are kept for a longer period at school, and to a riper age, than in this country.

In speaking to this resolution the right hon. gentleman pointed out some of the facilities which prevailed in foreign countries for passing and carrying into effect educational measures, and the difficulties which presented themselves in this country on account of the differences of opinion which prevailed amongst the people.

Mr. Ackroyd, in seconding the resolution, was bound, as a great employer, to say that the progress of education in the manufacturing districts had been arrested, not by parents but by employers, who had thrown all sorts of impediments in the way.

The noble Chairman put the resolution to the meeting, and it was adopted.

Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, Bart., read the report from Section C, and then moved the following resolution:—

That registration, certificate, and prize schemes have been shown to be applied in certain localities with advantage and to be worthy of more extensive trial.

Mr. E. Baines, of Leeds, seconded the resolution, and expressed his entire sympathy with the objects of the Conference. He was glad to find so general an expression of opinion that the great evil to be remedied was the early age at which children were removed from school. Towards the redress of that evil he should be happy, with others, to direct his best efforts.

Mr. Robert Owen asked Mr. Baines whether he remembered a report made by his late father on the state of the schools at New Lanark, which were some years ago under his direction?

Mr. Baines said he not only remembered the circumstance, but in consequence of that report he was induced himself to visit the schools, and a more delightful spectacle he never saw in his life.

The Rev. Canon Girdlestone spoke in support of the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

The Dean of Salisbury presented the report from Section D, and proposed the following resolution:—

That the voluntary half-time schemes have been with success adopted in certain localities, and may be recommended for further trial.

Mr. Samuel Morley seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Dean of Bristol brought up the report from Section E; and the Iton, and Rev. Grantham Yorke, of Birmingham, moved the following resolution:—

That this Conference considers the encouragement of industrial education in elementary schools, especially amongst girls to be very desirable, and that such instruction is peculiarly important in the reformation of juvenile offenders.

Mr. J. Symons seconded the resolution, which was carried.

The Bishop of Sodor and Man proposed the following resolution:—

That this Conference be now adjourned, and that it be referred to the general committee to prepare and publish a public report of the proceedings, with a selection of the papers, and determine as to the time and place of its next meeting.

Mr. C. H. Bracebridge seconded the resolution.

An amendment, proposed by the Rev. G. S. Bull, of Birmingham, was subsequently withdrawn; and the resolution proposed by the Bishop of Sodor and Man was agreed to.

Thanks were then voted to the Earl Granville and to Mr. Cowper (who presided during the latter part of the day), and the Conference then adjourned.

REGISTRATION OF TITLES TO LAND.

To transfer the produce of the soil—be it agricultural, metallic, or mineral—from the vendor to the purchaser is a perfectly facile operation; but to transfer the land itself is a most costly, dilatory, and vexatious operation. Many years have elapsed since the complicated evils of our system of conveyancing attracted public attention; but when the subject was investigated, with a view to reform acknowledged and glaring abuses, the difficulties appeared of such appalling magnitude that the boldest retreated with dismay from attempting the Herculean labour. The impediments thrown in the way of a searching inquiry were numerous. It was resisted by all who object to any change in what is established, from a vague fear that the remedy might prove even more pernicious than the disease. Possessors of estates who suspected some flaw in their title stood aloof, lest the flaw might be incidentally detected; others who had deeply burdened their properties with mortgages and other incumbrances dreaded any possible disclosure of their poverty or improvidence; while professional men who had passed their lives in studying the mysteries of the law became alarmed lest the adoption of plain rules and simple forms should deprive them of their emoluments. If these fears and prejudices have not yet entirely passed away they have become enfeebled, nor are they so widely diffused. The most timid have begun to learn that freedom of exchanges need not be regarded with apprehension; that an obstructive policy is not protective, but destructive; and that the law of progress, sooner or later, will enforce obedience to its decrees.

In the earliest periods of our history the most open publicity was given to the transfer of land; but in the course of time that rule was weakened and finally abandoned. Subtle contrivances and contrivances were introduced into the art of conveyancing, and the more the processes became complicated the stronger became the disposition to execute them in secret. The cost of investigating titles increased, and legal difficulties gradually intervened to such an extent as to diminish the marketable value of real property. The evil at length became so notorious that the Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to inquire into the burdens on land expressed themselves anxious "to impress on the House the necessity of a thorough revision of the whole subject of conveyancing, and the disuse of the present prolix and vexatious system." They also recommended "the improvement of the law of real property; the simplification of titles and of the form of conveyances; and the establishment of some effective system in the registration of deeds."

On the 15th of last May the Commissioners appointed on the 18th January, 1851, published their Report on Registration of Titles with Reference to Facilitating the Sale and Transfer of Land. It is a bulky document of 457 folio pages, replete with learned research, manifesting the most patient industry, and containing the most carefully-weighed considerations. Of its more essential points and bearings we propose to present to our readers a condensed summary.

Under the existing law there are five leading and distinct forms of registration. 1. A register of incumbrances and securities for debt. 2. A register or enrolment of particular classes of deeds, or of deeds having particular objects. 3. A register of memorials, or brief abstracts of deeds and instruments. 4. An enrolment of the deeds themselves, or full copies of them, extending to all deeds. 5. A register of the title or actual ownership, independently and irrespectively of the past transactions or deeds by which it has been acquired. The first four are special forms of conveyance, which lawyers alone can draw up, interpret, and understand, but the fifth is a very simple proceeding: of this character is the register in the books of the Bank of England of the public stocks and funds. On these modes of securing titles the Commissioners make the following remarks:—

If the 4th of the above-mentioned systems were made to extend to the whole country, it would be what is termed General Register of Assurances, and would supersede the 2nd and 3rd. If the 5th of these systems were extended to land, or if a register upon similar principles were applied to the ownership of land, it would exclude, or, at all events, might be made to render superfluous, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th systems, and with the addition of suitable provisions the 1st also.

After explaining the present state of the law as affecting landed titles, the Commissioners proceed to exhibit its evils, which, in the main, are attributed to the want of a complete registration-office, where the deeds, expressing the title, might readily be inspected. Under the present system it is easy to suppress or mutilate a deed, and thus fraud may be perpetrated. A man may feel himself safe by holding an equitable estate, but be unexpectedly dispossessed by another who obtains a transfer of the legal estate. Thus it happens that equitable, and derivative or secondary, estates are not marketable. The Commissioners observe that deeds may be lost, and there is no permanent evidence of the contents of the lost deeds. They point out the difficulty of "obtaining the production of deeds when they relate in common to two or more estates, or to the divided parts of an estate which was once entire." From these causes also estates are rendered unmarketable. In the second Report of the Real Property Commissioners is the following paragraph:—

We believe it may be confidently asserted that of the real property of England a very considerable portion is in one of these two predicaments—either the want of security against the existence of latent deeds renders actually unsafe a title which is yet marketable, or the want of means of procuring the formal requisites of title renders unmarketable a title which is substantially safe.

Statements of this character, coming from the highest authorities

in the law, would at any time, and under whatever circumstances, demand a searching inquiry and a judicious reform; but, since the repeal of the Corn-laws, and the greater attention paid to the processes of agriculture consequent upon that happy event, the policy of removing all impediments to the transfer of land has become more urgent. Security of tenure is one of the prime elements of value; and whatever hinders those improvements which unrestricted competition is calculated to stimulate must prove of serious detriment. No man will invest capital on a doubtful guarantee, and the Report before us must inspire the most careless confiding with distrust; hence a speedy remedy is most desirable. Moreover, we have only to reflect on the results of the Encumbered Estates Act in Ireland, not the least important of which is the new Parliamentary title to the soil, to appreciate the utility of a simple and inexpensive form of registration.

At present, before a single acre can be sold, a detailed history of every transaction connected with the estate during a period of sixty years must be shown, or no lawyer would recommend his client to purchase; and this retrospective search into titles is the cause of almost endless expense, delay, and uncertainty. No legislator founding a new State would introduce such a system. The Commissioners put the vexation in a strong light by stating that before the owner of an estate can borrow one hundred pounds for its improvement he is forced to prove "every birth, marriage, death, settlement, charge, conveyance, or incumbrance, that might by possibility affect the title for more than half a century past." Why should not such a man have the same facilities of raising money by loan, or of effecting an absolute sale of his property, as the shipowner, fundholder, or owner of railway shares?

In the reform now contemplated the objects aimed at are—1, Security of title; 2, Simplification of the title; 3, A record of the actual ownership; 4, Simplification of the forms of conveyance and general facility of transfer. That form of registration which best compasses these conditions substantially, even should it fail to remove all technical objections which a very moderate share of ingenuity can raise, ought to be accepted. Or, to put the problem to be solved in the language of the Commissioners, "By what means, consistently with the preservation of existing rights, can we now obtain such a system of registration as will enable owners to deal with land in as simple and easy a manner, as far as the title is concerned and the difference in the nature of the subject matter may allow, as they can now deal with moveable chattels or stock?" Among the improvements to be derived from the new system of registration, it is proposed that a retrospective inquiry into former transactions may be avoided without unduly impairing the security of trusts and settlements; that the register should preserve the succession of simple transfers only, and denote the actual ownership of land for the time being, but not disclose past dealings; that beneficial interests, not amounting to the fee, but creating minor interests and incumbrances, should be inserted in a separate and distinct register. For the whole kingdom a central registration-office is proposed to be located in London, with county offices for the several subdivisions of the realm—the whole under the control of the metropolitan registrar-general. Every owner of land in fee would have the right of recording his estate in the office; and an intending purchaser would at once be able to inspect the nature, and ascertain the validity, of the title. A lender of money would be secured by possessing the certificate of registered ownership as firmly as he now is by the possession of title deeds under deposit. When incumbrances are created they must be so entered on the register "as to show the name of the owner thereof, the lands upon which the same is made, the amount of money secured thereby, the rate of interest payable thereon, and the date of the instrument by which it is created." The priorities of all charges are to be determined exclusively according to the dates of their respective registration. If a transfer of registered ownership is obtained by fraud, the proof of the fraud is to defeat the title of the person who thus becomes registered owner.

Whether maps form the best basis for a registration scheme has led to much diversity of opinion; and the enormous expense of such instruments, based on triangulation, has been held as an insuperable objection, though without doubt they best preserve permanent landmarks, as a pictorial representation of property. Mr. Blamire says that the maps and references in the Tithe-office have already cost as much as £2,500,000. The Commissioners do not insist on them as compulsory, but would leave it to the discretion of the registrar to determine "how far and under what circumstances any existing public maps might be made available, as well as the scale upon which either the private maps or copies of the public ones should be prepared and employed."

We have not attempted more than an outline of this delicate and difficult reform. On the details and on the machinery much diversity of opinion may be expected; but few, if any, can defend the evils of the present system, which mainly flow from the reminiscences of feudalism and the subtle devices of the mediæval age. Wisdom always seeks to readapt the ancient institutions which have outgrown their usefulness in a conservative spirit, not ruthlessly to destroy the old framework. In the Report before us we see an anxious and prudent desire to spare the old building, but to remove its decaying timbers; to renovate, not to demolish.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ALPACA SHEEP INTO AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Titus Salt, of Saltaire, near Bradford, has succeeded in introducing the valuable Alpaca sheep into the colony of South Australia. The wool-growers of Australia have made many attempts to accomplish this object, but the jealousy of the Peruvian Government (in whose country the animal is only found) has hitherto opposed successful barriers to the project. Mr. Salt, who was the first to demonstrate that the wool of the Alpaca could be worked up into a woven fabric, had succeeded in obtaining a small flock of the animals, and had naturalised them upon a farm near Bradford. He had also a flock of Angora goats, and a flock of sheep, the wool of which is very valuable, being sold at the rate of 3s. per lb. Some months ago Mr. Salt consigned a number of each to an agent at Port Lincoln, South Australia; and on the 15th of March they were all landed in prime condition at Adelaide. They were then shipped to Port Lincoln, with the view to their being placed on a farm at Tiatakia, in the neighbourhood of Port Lincoln. After the arrival at Adelaide one of the goats died, but the rest retained their health. The wool of the Alpaca is exceedingly valuable, and is in increasing demand in the worsted districts. The weight of a fleece is said to be from ten to twelve pounds, and in its raw state the price per pound varies from 2s. ed.

Should the exported animals thrive and increase, the advantage to Australia will be immense, inasmuch as a new staple of ready sale will be the result.

Port Lincoln, where the experiment is to be tried, is understood to possess peculiar advantages. Its soil is stony and bears but a scanty crop of grass,

but it yields a variety of bushes, of which sheep are very fond, and on which they fatten.

In its climate, the aridity of its pastures, and the hilly nature of the ground, it very much resembles Peru, the habitat of the Alpaca.

THE LAST MORMON HEGIRA.—The *Alton Courier*, May 21, gives the following account of the departure of Mormons from Illinois:—"The Mormons of Alton have all left, 'bag and baggage,' for the Upper Missouri, thence to take their weary march across the plains. The most of them intend to go to a new region of the Salt Lake country, some two hundred miles from the Great City—to 'the wilderness,' as they term it—and there found a new town. A small number, only, go to the city of Brigham Young. The latter band started from here one month later than the former. At New Florence, a town near St. Joseph, they are to be organised into companies, each two or three persons to one hand-cart, and with some ox teams following, to carry the heavy luggage, and the aged and feeble, they set off upon their march as soon as the spring weather permits. We are unable to state precisely how many persons or families have thus left our city, but have heard them estimated at 120 souls, and some 27 families. There is a large Mormon emigration this spring of people who have lived in the various States during the winter past, and whose eyes should have been opened somewhat to the real state of things in Utah. The *Peru Chronicle* says that one day last week over 600 Mormons passed through that place on their way to Salt Lake City. We notice by the *Rock Island* papers that about 300 passed there about the same time, destined for the city of abominations. The 'Outpost of Zion' at Cincinnati has been cleaned out by the citizens, and will shortly be on its way to Salt Lake City, several hundred strong. The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* of a recent date says that about 2500 will leave that city this spring, for the same place."

The Rev. John Bowen, Rector of Orton Longville, near Peterborough, has been appointed Bishop of Sierra Leone.

At the Thames Police Court, on Saturday last, Henry Lewis, owner of the ship *Aeon*, was fined £20 for proceeding to sea without a proper certificate, contrary to the Merchant Shipping Act. The defendant had evaded the law by hiring a man who had a certificate to clear the ship out of Cardiff, and dismissing him as soon as that object was accomplished. He had also proceeded to sea without a properly-qualified mate.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Neuchâtel Government has issued a notice to sixty-six of those implicated in the acts of last September that they may return home, and take part in the elections.

The launch of the *Melpomene* at Pembroke Dockyard is to take place on the 8th of August next.

The Bavarian Government has just decided that henceforward primary teachers cannot marry without the permission of the Minister of the Interior.

The Grand Duke of Nassau, on the occasion of the marriage of the Princess Sophia with the Prince Oscar of Sweden, pardoned eighteen civil offenders. In the duchy there is not at present any person confined for political offences.

An extensive theft of valuable books and manuscripts from the library at the British Museum has just been discovered. Among the books stolen are Sir Walter Scott's and the poets Gray and Godwin's works, most of the productions of Longfellow and Gaultier, and the celebrated "Navarrete Colmion de Documentos," from Madrid.

The installation of the new Bishop of Norwich, in the cathedral church of his diocese, took place on Friday (yesterday). Before the ceremony the dean, archdeacon, canons, and clergy proceeded to the episcopal palace to present an address to the bishop, and his Lordship, having replied to their congratulations, was accompanied to the great west door of the cathedral by the archdeacon, honorary canons, and clergy.

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, England, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey met on Friday, the 19th inst., at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paris, for the purpose of signing the treaty for the frontier settlement in Bessarabia, and for regulating the question of the Isle of Serpents and of the Delta of the Danube.

Accounts from St. Petersburg state that a company has been formed for conducting the water of the Neva into all the houses of that capital. Another company, with several French directors, has undertaken to light the city with gas. At the present moment the grand squares and places of that capital, as likewise the vast majority of streets, can only boast of oil-lamps.

The editors and chief contributors of the scientific and medical journals in Paris have commenced a series of monthly dinners. The chief toast at the last was, "The scientific press, and may the extension of its influence spread more and more among the public the taste for scientific pursuits."

On Saturday last the Marylebone vestry re-elected Mr. J. A. Nicholay to represent that body in the Metropolitan Board of Works. The numbers were—For Mr. Nicholay, 63; for Dr. A. Sayer, 40 votes.

Lieutenant Greville, R.N., has been appointed Admiralty agent on the Southampton station.

The Board of Trade have received a communication from the Foreign-office announcing the intention of the Danish Government to release English ships "immediately and entirely" from the observance of the provisional regulations existing at Elsinore relative to the Sound dues, which were entered into in order to liberate our commerce from the 1st of last April.

Sir Robert Carswell, the physician in ordinary to King Leopold of Belgium, died at Laken, near Brussels, on Wednesday, after a long and painful illness. Sir Robert was in his sixty-fourth year, and a native of Thornbank, in Scotland.

A monastery is about to be erected by the Benedictine Order at Belmont, near Hereford, on a scale unknown in England since the Reformation.

The Zollverein States are to assemble early in July, to discuss the sugar duties, as the existing system tends to the virtual exclusion of colonial sugar, and artificially enhances the price of beetroot sugar. It is anticipated that Prussia will propose to continue the duty on colonial sugar, and to raise the duty on beetroot sugar from six silver gros. to 7½ silver gros.

On Sunday evening the fourth of the series of services intended for the especial instruction of the working classes took place at Exeter Hall. The hall, which is capable of holding 4000 persons, was filled in every part.

A monument to the memory of Captain Lyons (son of Admiral Lord Lyons), who was killed on board the *Miranda*, which he commanded in a night attack on Fort Constantine on the 15th of June, 1835, in the late war with Russia, has just been placed in the south aisle of St. Paul's Cathedral. It consists of a large tablet, on which is carved the *Miranda* attacking the battery.

A legacy of £500 Three per Cent Annuities has been received by the committee of the Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, under the will of the late Rev. Thomas Halford, of Hanover-square. The returns show that more than 1000 patients now obtain relief at the hospital every week.

The number of marriages performed in registrars' offices during the last six years are as follow:—For the year ending the 31st December, 1850, 6207; 1851, 6413; 1852, 7100; 1853, 7598; 1854, 7593; 1855, 7441.

On Monday morning William Bushell, a mariner, who resided at Leman-street, Goodman's-fields, Whitechapel, destroyed himself by swallowing a large quantity of arsenic.

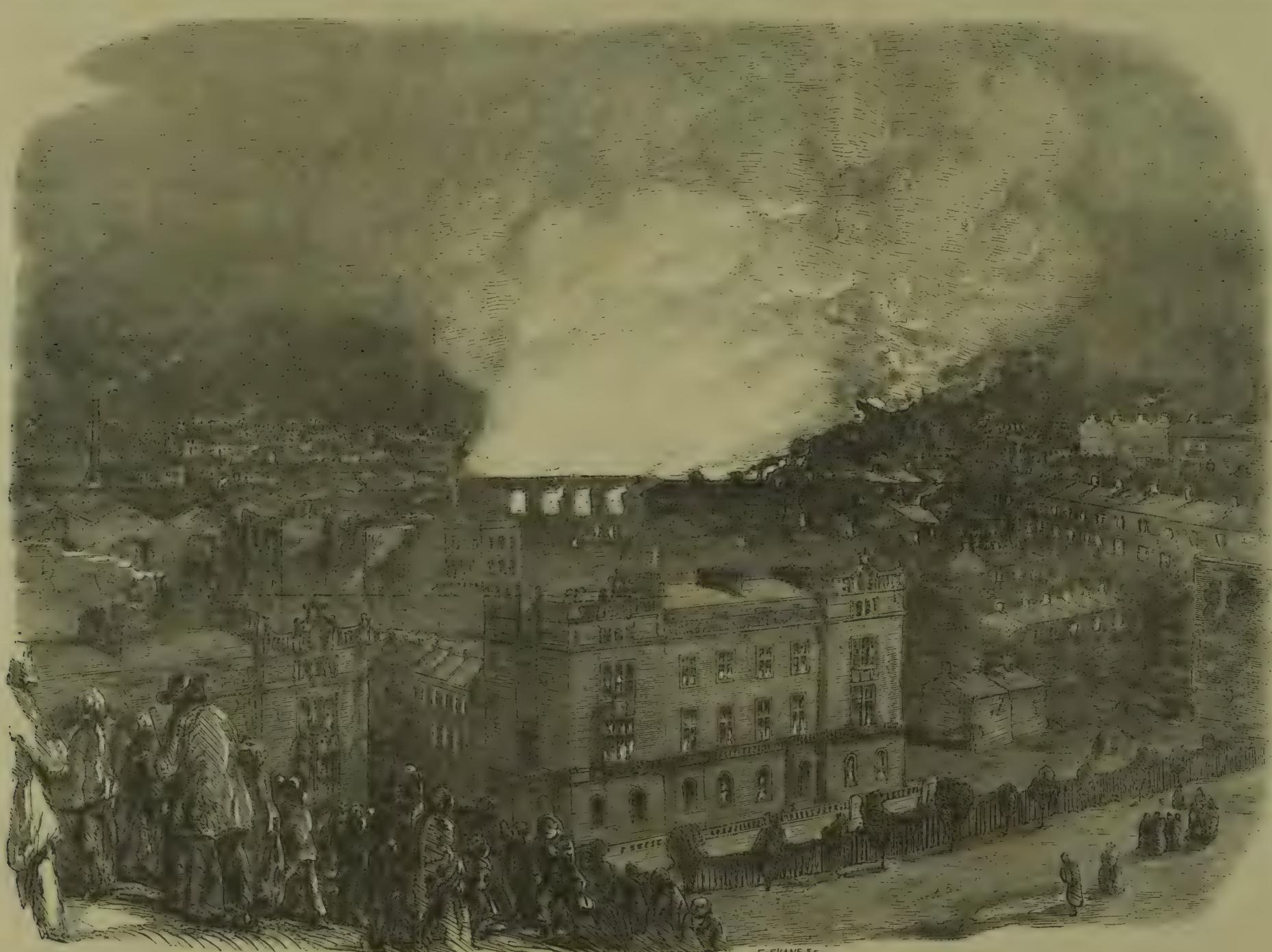
Archbishop McHale has arrived in town in pursuance of the warrant from the Speaker of the House of Commons, directing his attendance before the Mayo Committee. He is staying at the residence of Cardinal Wiseman, and is accompanied by a large body of the Tuam priests, who are to give evidence on this inquiry.

A despatch from Madrid announces that the definitive concession of the Spanish line of Transatlantic steamers has been granted to M. Carrizuri, representing the company of Gauthier (Brothers), which has been carrying on the service provisionally.

The amount of taxes received in Holland during the first five months of the present year was 22,900,867 florins, or about 300,000 florins more than in the corresponding period of 1856.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess de Montpensier, with four children and suite, arrived at Plymouth on Tuesday afternoon from Gijon, in the Spanish war-transport *Isabella la Catholic*, Commodore Salcedo.

Maurice Retsch, the German artist, whose illustrations of Goethe and other poets are so celebrated, has just died, at the age of seventy-seven years.</p



THE LATE FIRE AT THE CAMDEN-TOWN GOODS STATION.—SKETCHED FROM PRIMROSE-HILL.—(SEE PAGE 648.)

GRASSI'S SCREW LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE FOR ASCENDING STEEP GRADIENTS ON RAILWAYS.

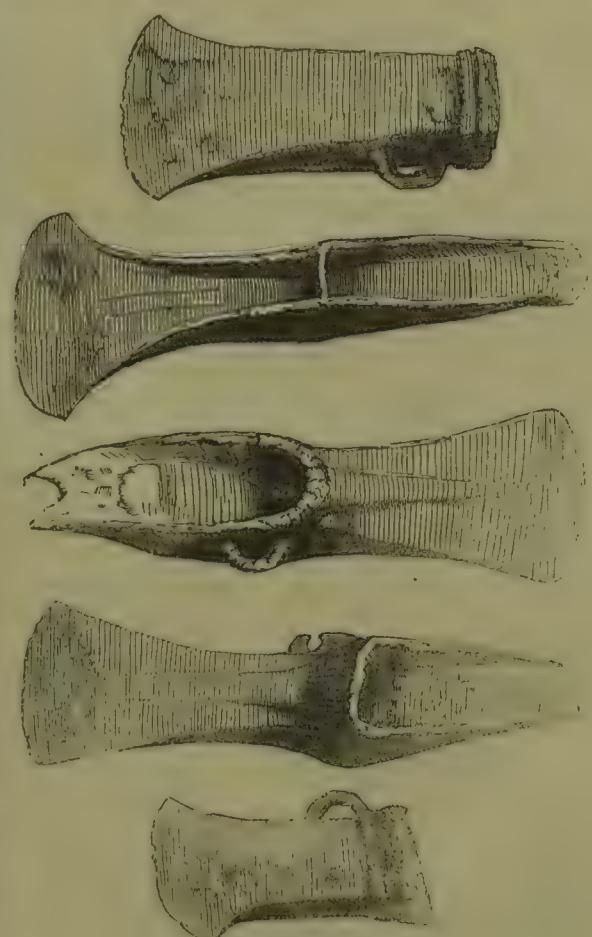
THIS invention, which has been patented by M. Grassi, consists of an application of the Archimedean screw to locomotive engines for taking trains up steep ascents on railways, which it is anticipated will prove more economic than the ordinary system of tunneling and embanking. Captain Moorsom, civil engineer, member of the Institution of Civil Engineers in London, and lately selected by the English Government to discharge the important and difficult duty of making a general survey for a complete railway system in Ceylon, has undertaken to study the Grassi system, and to report on its practical value. Captain Moorsom proposes to construct a locomotive engine with 18-inch outside cylinders, 4-feet driving-wheel, and 24 inches stroke, with boiler capacity sufficient to provide steam (with proper expansion gear) for a speed of not less than twelve miles per hour on the incline, with a gross load of not less than 100 tons, including the weight of the engine and tender, which would probably amount to about 28 tons. On the driving-axle of the engine a bevelled wheel will be fixed so as to connect by means of one intermediate motion with the crown-wheel on the end of the shaft of the screw. The driving-wheel and screw revolve in exact ratio to each other, so that the screw will advance exactly as the driving wheels advance, or, in other words, each revolution of the driving-wheel sends the screw forward 12 feet to 7 inches nearly. Thus, twelve turns of the screw are made for every turn of the driver. Captain Moorsom

believes that the wheel will make about 13,000 such revolutions per hour on the level, and that, when we apply the same motive power to turn the screw on the incline of one in twenty, the steam power will overcome the additional resistance arising from gravity and friction of the machinery, at a speed not less than from one-third to one-half of that attained on the level with the same load. The thread of the screw will be of 13 inches diameter, winding round a cylinder or shaft of 7 inches diameter, and with a pitch of 12½ inches. The cylinder screwed will be about 5 feet 4 inches long, and will always hold two of the rollers in its grasp at one time. The rollers or pulleys will be about 5 feet 4 inches long, and will always hold two of the rollers in its grasp at one time; they will be placed 3 feet 2 inches part from centre to centre, and will be about 8½ inches in diameter, and will revolve into a longitudinal balk of timber, and will be lubricated in the same way as the wheels of the carriages. The bearing timbers for the rollers will be a single line of balks about 10 inches wide by 8 inches deep; thus each mile will require 2933 cubic feet of timber, and 1668 rollers. The rails will be bridge rails, weighing 65 lbs. per yard, and screwed to balks equal to a section of 10 inches by 8 inches at the least. The total cost per mile will be £3701. The cost of the engine (which will carry her tender upon her own frame), with screw and connecting gear complete, in the shops in England will be £3000. The rails have no additional expense to bear on account of this peculiar construction.

From the above it is obvious that a large economy is to be attained by the use of the screw-engine.

BRONZE CELTS DISCOVERED IN SURREY.

THESE interesting relics were found a short time since at the village of Send, near Farnham, in Surrey. A labourer was trenching up a piece of waste land for the purpose of planting it with trees, when a number of celts were discovered lying close together about twenty inches from the surface. They comprise a variety in bronze, such as



CELT'S RECENTLY FOUND AT SEND, IN SURREY.

were used by the ancient Britons, from the rudest form down to the most elaborately finished weapon. The spot where they were found is about fifty yards from an ancient British camp called "Soldier's Ring," and about a quarter of a mile from a high intrenched hill called Crooksbury Hill. From a considerable number of celts being found lying together they are thought to have been buried for concealment, in the hope of their possessor regaining them on a future day. Here they have remained for nearly 2000 years, some of them so little injured by time that the marks of the mould in which they were cast are still fresh upon them.



GRASSI'S SCREW LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE FOR ASCENDING STEEP GRADIENTS ON RAILWAYS.



THE LATE FIRE AT THE CAMDEN-TOWN GOODS STATION OF THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY—SKETCHED FROM THE CANAL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE LATE FIRE AT THE CAMDEN-TOWN GOODS STATION.

We have engraved upon the preceding pages two scenes of this great conflagration, sketched from points which convey accurate pictures of the destructiveness and vast extent of the catastrophe.

The first View shows the burning mass as it appeared from Primrose-hill. About six minutes before eleven the brigade engines began to arrive in rapid succession; but by this time the entire body of the building, five acres in extent, was one mass of flames—the great gates were already gone—and in the centre could be seen waggon after waggon and truck-load upon truck-load of goods dropping down with a loud crash as the fire gained the mastery over them. The wind was at the time blowing in a south-westerly direction, the flames completely overlapping the roof of the Stanhope Arms and premises adjoining, notwithstanding the praiseworthy efforts of a Life Guardsman and some others, who in spite of the extraordinary heat continually threw buckets of water from the roof on to the front. The flagstaff on the summit of the building had already ignited and was blazing upwards when the brigade poured immense streams on the front of the building, which had become so hot that the water actually hissed, and the wall gave out copious clouds of steam as it dashed against it.

The large Engraving, sketched from the Canal, shows the fire in its full devastating fury.

In the interior of the burning warehouses beam upon beam and roof after roof came crashing down, and explosion after explosion added to the scene of devastation, which was not a little heightened when, at about half-past eleven o'clock, the roofs of the stabling, upon which the solid paving of the sheds was laid, and which were all supported upon arches to the extent of about two acres, gave way, carrying with them the whole of the burning mass beneath. Shortly after the great northern wall fell with a tremendous crash upon two large barges laden with corn which were lying in the cut of the Regent's Canal immediately beneath.

WHITSTABLE OYSTER-GROUNDS.

OYSTERS are out. True, indeed, now and then during the week two or three of the Essex or Kentish smacks steal up to Billingsgate, and find a ready market for their illegal freights; but the Londoners have forsaken mollusk-eating, and betaken themselves to Jullien and Cremona.* From the 12th of May to the 4th of August dredging is forbidden, and, considering that at least fifteen thousand bushels are brought to the London market by one company alone, it is well that a little cessation of labour is forced upon the active jaws of oyster-loving humanity, and four months' respite granted to the oysters themselves to propagate their race. Notwithstanding their many troubles, how great holes are bored in their shells by curious inter-facing sponges, how they are drilled by the trochi and whelks, and tickled by annelides and crabs (pinnotheres), they patch out their tormentors with pearly shutters, or they lay quietly submissive to their annoyances—models of patience—and don't trouble their heads—no, their brains, for they have no heads (and, indeed, not many of the latter)—about mundane matters, but lolling on the hard-grounds in the fresh tide, twitter with the innumerable cilia of their beards armies of animalcules directly into their mouths, and get as fat as possible. Thousands of City people every summer take a "ride" over the salt waves to Herne Bay, within four miles of the largest oyster-ground in the kingdom—thousands eat them, but very few know anything about their lives or their histories. If any desire information it is very difficult to get it, and most content themselves with gulping a score or so of uncooked "natives," and expressing their satisfaction of the flavour by the oft-repeated ejaculation, "What delicious oysters!" Commons, roughs, and Jerseys are also abundantly consumed, with many gallons of porter and many cartloads of bread-and-butter, during the favoured months of the year—which oyster-eaters recognise by the presence of the letter R. The adage says he must have been a bold man who first swallowed an oyster, and truly he must have been a foolish one who, having tasted the first, did not try the second. Whether Adam had any ideas of oysters is not recorded, nor has the name of the first oyster-eater been preserved; but it must have been at rather a remote period of human existence that these excellent shellfish became a favourite dish. The Greeks had them at their suppers, and the Romans, we know, brought them to their tables from every shore. Juvenal declares the Roman epicure

At the first bite each oyster's birthplace knew,
Whether a Lucrine or Cireean he'd bitten,
Or one from Rutupian deeps in Britain;

and as readily can a connoisseur or a dredger tell a Kent from a Colchester, a Jersey from an Irish, a Calais from a "New Ground," or a Kenkale.

Not knowing much more about oysters than most people, either of their habits or the mysteries of the trade, I determined to inform myself by a personal inspection, and resolved on a journey to Whitstable. Some people never find romance in anything—like the author who was looking abroad for a tragedy while one was enacting under his window—others find it everywhere—make it, in fact, as many do wit; and even an excursion to Whitstable might be made the subject of tales merry or serious. The bright sun was shining, and not a white fleck spotted the radiant sky; the tall spires and pinnacles of the old cathedral stood grey and erect above the green trees and red roofs, and pointed their beautiful fingers to heaven; above, the smoke curled with evident lassitude about the tops of chimneys, as if it were hard to be obliged to move off in such hot weather, and the wind was too lazy to stir up the fine dust that lay basking in the roads. But there were dark clouds on more than one heart in the city of Canterbury, and few on whose sympathies the shadows of the clouds had not fallen. A young and blooming maiden had been murdered by her lover, and was about to be consigned as dust—to dust. A drunken man had hanged himself—for three months the alcohol had been fuming away his senses, and on one of God's holiest and brightest days he had blotted out the lovely face of nature and cast himself into darkness. Other tales of human passions and wickedness, more subtle and more common, were poured into the ears of the traveller; and had digression been my digression, like the poet Lord's, I might have followed the novelist's path, instead of my journey to Whitstable. It used to be an event to get there; the six miles of railway or tramway was a slow way, and at the incline, by the tunnel, one could easily beat the train on foot, and walk over the hill enjoying the breeze while the passengers were being smothered with smoke within. The carriages are cleaner than they used to be, but some of them are still labelled "for Whitstable only," I suppose because they are too bad for anywhere else; and, although the time occupied in the journey is reduced to less than half an hour, the aboriginal arrangement of depositing passengers and goods alike on the harbour, among rails, coals, and waggons, is still in vogue. Sunday at Whitstable is a gay day; the town is a long winding street of small houses, stretched out with trees and gardens from Tankerton Point to Borstall-hill, like two lines of soldiers in single file, and all the people in Whitstable turn out in their best dresses to parade between them on Sunday evenings. The best dresses are not, however, the greatest attractions, at least of the fairer portion of the promenaders. But the gaiety of Whitstable even is not wholly unmolested. Primitive Methodist preachers teach the vanity of earthly things on Whitstable beach. On the banks of timber these Primitive Methodist congregations gather, singing psalms and praying amongst the logs. A tea-booth was set up at the other end of the shore; and, though the indefatigable proprietor got some customers, the reverend primitive was in the greater favour. Everybody in Whitstable seems happy; bright faces, tanned and weathered as well as young and fair, appear everywhere. Blue jackets and cotton gowns, silk mantles and black coats, seem alike to cover light hearts; and I only saw three dismal faces in all the place: three primitives—not the parson's; he was a comfortable-looking, hard-working old man—but his clerk's and two assistants'. I suppose there's a fourth—the undertaker's, who probably has a long face to

keep up appearances; but I firmly believe the gravedigger digs away as merrily as anybody, in the strong faith of universal enjoyment. The coke-ovens and the colliers do their best to make Whitstable dirty; and, if the South-Eastern Railway got riches in proportion to the quantity of filth about their premises, they would soon increase their dividends, and abandon their vile charge on the hand-hags of passengers by their excursion-trains, and permit them the luxury of an overall without the charge of tenpence for it. Off Tankerton Point is a submerged way still known as the "Street Stones," which the full tide marks with a line of surf. At the end of it are the remains of an ancient town or station; and from a well-known ridge of rocks about six or seven miles from the shore quantities of red Samian ware, familiarly termed "pudding-pans," have been from time immemorial dredged up. Some are brought up in very excellent condition, and their abundance is remarkable. Over the water looms the Isle of Sheppey, the blue form of Warden Point resting on its bed of silvery mist in front of the ruddy sky and setting sun, whose rays make a golden path between the fishing-boats and barges as they travel earthwards, and land in gilded ripples among the rows of low jetties and old boats which worn-out sailors offer for hire at sixpence by the hour. Turning towards Herne Bay, a string of black dots indicates its mile-long pier; and as the salt water changes their chameleon hues from pale azure indistinctness to a mellow tinge, splitting into scales of green and purple as they make friends with the shore, they form lovely contrasts with yellow sands, verdant hills, and ochreous cliffs whereon the coastguard man, in "trousers white and jacket blue," paces up and down with spyglass now under arm, and now pointed with searching glance to look for smugglers who will never come, and again tucking up his glass to think of the prizes of other days when the magistrates somehow never convicted, and even the holy man read prayers in the village church with a clear conscience, although he had left his stable door open more than once in the week before. Common as is the oyster to naturalists and ordinary men, only one anatomical engraving of it exists, and in that the course of the alimentary canal is wrongly delineated. It is to be found in Poli's beautiful book on the testacea of Sicily, and the error has been copied into the splendid Crochard edition of "Cuvier's Regne Animal," while every one from Poli's day to the present seems to have preferred digesting the oyster to dissecting it, and much knowledge has yet to be acquired of the propagation of the oyster. The ovary is placed over the front and upper part of the animal, and covers nearly the whole body when distended with spawn, and it is this organ which gives the white appearance to the oyster in the spring of the year.

Many of the dredgers consider their flavour finer at this stage than during the ordinary season; but the public prejudice against them is not without its beneficial influences, though their prolificness is such as to preclude the idea of their extermination while there remains a favourable place in the wide sea for their development; each individual producing from fifty to sixty thousand eggs. When the eggs are liberated into the sea, each contains a small bivalve shell, imperceptible without the aid of the microscope, which escapes on the fracture of its little transparent capsule, and spins about rapidly for a time, and then attaches itself to some solid substance, on which it continues to grow and mature. The "spat," as it is termed, is not the first nor even the second stage of development; the young oyster has then acquired its two shells, and become attached by one of them; and the idea is very prevalent among the fishermen that the brood swims, from their observations of the "fall of the spat" taking place at various distances away from the beds, and being apparently influenced by the conditions of tides and winds. The brood of the Whitstable oyster is considered to be carried by such influences to the Essex shore, where the spat falls in much greater abundance than on the Kentish side, and quantities of it are repurchased by the Whitstable dredgers to restock their own grounds. Not less than twelve or fourteen thousand pounds are thus annually expended by them. The oysters "sicken" about the end of May, and remain out of condition a few weeks, when they rapidly improve, and are again brought to market on that day (the 4th of August) of memorable note when their shells are built up in street corners, and halfpence eagerly solicited by shoeless children with the well-known "Please remember the grotto." The sickness is of two kinds—black and white—the colours being probably indicative of the difference of sex, oysters not being, according to M. Quatrefages, as has been frequently thought, hermaphrodite, but distinct. The two great divisions of the conchifera or bivalve mollusca are those possessed of siphons (siphonidae) and those without (asiphonidae). Of the former the common teller, found by thousands in the mud of our coasts, and so ordinarily used in the pasteboard baskets, cottages, and other trifling ornaments of the humbler homes, is at once a ready and pretty example. A few of these placed in a pan of water exhibit a charming sight—their long siphons extended like wax tubes with a flower or protecting cilia at their extremities to defend the orifices from the intrusion of obnoxious objects, which are often seen whirling round and round in the moving circle produced by the inhalent and exhalent currents of water, the directions of which are made pleasingly evident by a scattering of powdered indigo or light dust. The oyster belongs to the siphonless order, and is also destitute of any foot, like the cockle; nor has it a true hinge, like most other shellfish. The branchia consist of the plated gills or lungs, commonly called the beard; the sheet translucent substance known as the "white" of the oyster being the powerful abductor muscle with which it closes its valves; and the small black clot which is usually extracted from the cavity between the latter organ and the body of the fish being the heart. The body itself consists for the most part of a highly-developed liver, easily recognisable by its olive hue, and the ovary—it may be regarded, indeed, as a natural *paté de foie gras*.

The summer's sun has woken long before the inhabitants of Whitstable have opened their eyes, or its houses their shutters—both seem fast asleep together. All nature sparkles in the crisp air; even the chimneys of the coke-ovens look clean and bright. A few labourers trudge down the street singly and at intervals. Presently a blind is drawn—then another; a curl of smoke winds out from a solitary chimney; a child runs across the road with a cup; two or three women, with aprons twisted round their heads, open their doors and unclos their windows; gaping boys begin to take down shutters and hook up awnings; early shoppers appear with the milkman, and the town rapidly awakens. Vanes at mastheads leave like a gentle sigh, and then drop listlessly down; sparrows chirp on house-tops, but not a feather is ruffled by the warm air. The wind is supposed to be—there's not a breath of it—west; if it "draws round to the eastward" there will be a breeze; but it don't seem inclined to draw anywhere. The tide suits at eight o'clock, and at the appointed time the sailors assemble. They sit in the storehouses, whittling chips, sharpening knives on bricks and stones; some are astride the jetties, tobacco is blown under the shade of buildings, and others bask on the shore. The foreman dredger directs his glass to Hartz Ferry, and detects by the rough surface a slight "draft" afar off, and afar off it keeps; it is watched for, and talked about, but it does not come. The men would have been dismissed long since but for the stranger; they are proud of their pretty fleet as it lies so quietly on the glassy sea, but prouder of it when sails are spread and the hundred boats are in motion, tacking and intertacking, and twisting about each other like creatures used to it from the days of their building. Nearly noon, and the breeze has died away. It is still looked for afar off by Hartz Ferry, but it is no longer to be seen. So a stentorian voice, round and full, issuing between hollow hands, proclaims the muster on the morrow at ten. The tide falls back, the kingdom of ocean recedes, and the commonwealth of mud and mussels begins. Barges are high and dry; and as the coolness of evening sets in one scarcely recognises as we meet in the green fields the booted, guernseyed, sou'westered men of the morning in their holiday trim. During the night the breeze has come, and the barque at the end of the pier spreads her broad wings and departs on her way; the hundred fishing-smacks caper with delight; punts and small boats dance with joy; and the sharp waves people round the horses' legs as they stand by their waggons alongside the barges—heavy things as they are, they, too, are inclined to be lively; oars, and spars, and sails are brought down the "full;" small boats tugged afloat crowded with men, and transfers of parts of their living freight made to other craft; more and more punts and sails skipping over the merry water. The smacks are boarded, foresails hauled up, jibs set, tillers rigged, pumps tried, and leakage worked out with a curious apparatus—a compound of a

sucker, a broomstick, and a crosstree; baskets got ready; and three dredges fall from each vessel with a splash; their lines are made fast by little pieces of twine called "scops" at the proper lengths, and the three hundred dredges of the hundred smacks are all scraping the oyster-grounds together. The dredges are drawn up, the bags held up by their wooden beams, and the contents shot on deck. The dredges are launched again, and go scraping on as before, but the three sailors are hard at work astride their baskets selecting the larger oysters, weeding out the starfish, whelks, and dead shells, and scooping overboard the balance of "spat," young ones and culch. What hauls for naturalists, what collections for aquaria are brought up at every cast! long stems of sponges, odoriferous bunches of weeds, old shells frosted with barnacles and peppered with their broad, flower-headed tubulariae, horny fronds of serpulariae and other bryozon, the jelly-like spawn of the doris, the twisted cords of the colis, and occasionally some of the nudibranchiates themselves, "dog whelks," "whale tingle," "borers" and "burrs," "five fingers" and "twelve fingers," and dead and living things enough to give a zoologist years of work if he would only make up his mind to know all about them. The whelks are eaten or used as bait, the starfish supply the farmer with manure, and the rest are thrown overboard, as I said before. The selected oysters are allowed to remain on deck, the liquor within their shells protecting them from harm, while the influence of the sun and atmosphere destroys the parasitical weeds and animals with which the exterior of the shell is covered. Dredging is always an exciting operation, but it is not when the oysters are being dredged for the London markets that the most exciting scenes occur: these happen when they are out of season, or during the four months they are prohibited by law from being captured for sale. It is during this time the beds are "cleaned," that is, the whole of the grounds are swept from end to end, and all the oysters examined in the manner above described. Various portions are marked off by tall fir poles forty feet long, with the top brush of boughs remaining; these have their larger ends sharpened to a point, and are stuck into the ground, and worked down by the crew to a depth of eight or ten feet, when they are sufficiently firmly planted to resist the winds and tides. In each of these areas certain oysters are kept—commons, roughs, and natives; so the practice of throwing the remainder of each dredge-load overboard leaves each kind on its own particular ground. A large space is marked off at one end of the grounds for the deposit of all the oysters of more than three years' growth, and from this portion only the trade supply is obtained.

It is here the closing and finest scene of a dredging-day occurs. After about four hours work the signal is given by the hoisting of a flag, and all the dredgers simultaneously cease from their labours: the boats make for the "Slough," as this particular site is called. The hundred boats approach this limited space, and buzz about like flies within the narrowest of circles, the oysters are thrown over, the smacks return to their moorings. Each selects its own buoy, for the ends of the cables are attached to hollow casks, and are cast off when the vessel sails, and secured again on her return to her station—the trouble of heaving the anchor at every voyage being thus avoided. The punts are again at work conveying the dredgermen ashore. The sails and oars are carried up the beach and deposited in the stores, the dredging for the day is over, and the men go home to clean themselves, smoke their pipes, and, if the weather suits, literally to go over the same ground again on the morrow. The hundred vessels are once more despatched riding with their bowsprits all in one direction, and are left with the oysters under the charge of the watchman and his crew. During the season a few of the most capacious boats are selected for conveying the oysters to town, whence, in addition to the consumption in the great city itself, many hundred bushels are sent abroad, large consignments being made even to America and Russia. The method of packing them is by arranging them in concentric rings, with the deep valve downwards, in common light casks, the heads of which are then nailed on, and in this way, living entirely on their own moisture, they are transported on journeys of more than a fortnight's duration. The exportation of oysters for long distances is not solely a modern accomplishment. Apicius, so famous for his ragouts, was also celebrated for his method of preserving oysters, which he contrived to send fresh five hundred leagues. The Romans appear to have eaten them generally fresh. Lergius Aurata built a house on the Lucrine lake for the purpose of eating them in the best possible condition, and in the neighbourhood of the Roman castra and villas heaps of oyster-shells are continually found. Caesar even is reputed to have been tempted to the conquest of our land by the size of British pearls.

A dish of "natives," slightly flavoured with lemon, and a dust of sugar, accompanied by a bottle of chablis and the proper *et cetera*, is a lunch for a prince, but oysters are more usually eaten with the humbler accessories of vinegar and stout. They have not, however, been neglected by the votaries of culinary science, and are scalloped with bread crumbs, baked into patties, and served up with codfish as sauce. With our ancestors, too, they were greatly in favour, and although it would be difficult to get a modern cook to attempt any of their receipts which have been preserved, yet one or two may not prove uninteresting. The two following are from an old roll of the master-cook of Richard II., who, from his experience of that Monarch's luxurious feasts, ought to have been a first-rate hand. But tastes differ:—*Oysters in Gravy*.—Schyl oysters, and seeth them in wyne and in their own broth. Cole (strain) the broth through a cloth: take almonds blanched, grynde them, and drawe (mix) them up with the self (same) broth, and alye it with floer of rys (rice), and do (put) the oysters therinne. Cast in powdor of gynger, sugar, macy's; seeth it not to stondyng (not till it is thick), and serve forth. *Oysters in Cyve*.—Take oysters, parboil them in their owne broth; make a lyor (mixture) of crust of bread, and drawe (mix) it up with the broth and vynegar, mynce oynrons, and do (put) thereto with herbes, and cast the oysters therinne. Boile it, and do (put) thereto powder fort (pepper) and salt, and messe (serve) it forth. The following way "to make oystryne in bruct" occurs in another document of the year 1381:—"They schul be schallyd (shelled) and ysoed (soaked) in clene water; grynde peper, safron, fred, and all, and temper it wth broth; do (put) the oyster therinne, and boyle it, and salt it, and serve it forth."

About sixty species of recent, and more than two hundred species of fossil, oysters are known. Of the former, many kinds are eaten in China, America, India, and other parts of the globe; and large banks of the latter are met with in the tertiary sands of the Isle of Thanet, and in the ragstone at Hythe, and other localities of the lower green-sand. There is a narrow band of the Kimmeridge clay, composed of myriads of the tiny *Ostrea virgula*, a bushel of which would have scarcely afforded a meal; while the great shells of the Kentish rag and the native-like forms of the solitary oysters of the chalk make us regret there were no oyster-eaters in those days; and, in the words of the late Professor Forbes, one can scarcely look upon the scenes which modern geology has unfolded without "chasing a pearly tear away" at the thought how all these delicate beings came into the world and vanished to so little purpose."

MONSTER COTTON-SPINNING ESTABLISHMENT IN RUSSIA.—A letter written from St. Petersburg on the 5th June says:—"The first stone of a monster manufactory has just been laid. It will comprise a cotton-spinning establishment and a series of weaving-shops. The building is to be raised upon the Isle of Cronholm, situated upon the Narova, between the two cataracts of that river. It is stated that the spinning departments will comprehend the largest building in the whole world. There are to be 1672 window-frames; and the building will be lighted by from 15,000 to 20,000 jets of gas. The number of workmen engaged is fixed at 3000 at least. The edifice is to be completed in three years, but a portion of the spinning department is to be ready for work in one year."

LADIES AT PUBLIC DINNERS.—The annual festival of the British Beneficent Institution (a society for granting annuities to the widows and orphans daughters of members of the learned professions, in addition to the naval and military), which took place at the London Tavern on Friday (yesterday), was illustrated by a delightful novelty in the usual arrangement of a public dinner. The lady patronesses of the society were present at the banquet with their husbands—not, as heretofore in the galleries, spectators of the feast, but sharers in it.

THE South-Western Railway Company have arranged to carry passengers between the Nine Elms and Waterloo stations (at eight in the morning and at half-past eight in the evening) for one penny. This is designed with the special object of accommodating the large body of artisans employed on the London side; thus affording the opportunity of escaping the crowded streets, to the enjoyment of purer air and cheap rents.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

NEWLY-INVENTED GUNS.

Lord PANMURE (in reply to a question from Lord Ravensworth) said that the six guns constructed so as to be loaded at the breech had been imported from America. The order was given to the inventor, who was an American, and was allowed to make them where he pleased, as they were experimental guns.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, with an appropriate explanation, introduced eight bills which had been prepared by the Statute Law Commission for the codification of the law. These related to larceny, including burglary, malicious injuries to property, forgery, offences relating to the coinage, the game laws, libel, and the laws relating to accessories to offences. He described the principles by which the Commissioners had been guided in their important and arduous labours; and believed that, as the result of their work, the fifty volumes of statutes would be ultimately reduced to two or three.

Lord BROUHAM and Lord CAMPBELL joined in the approbation expressed of the Commission, and the bills were read a first time.

MINISTERS' MONEY.—Their Lordships went into Committee upon the Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill; Lord Derby contending himself with a protest against the measure, and throwing the whole responsibility of it upon the Government. Notwithstanding several protests and much expressed disapprobation, the bill went through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE ROCHDALE ELECTION PETITION.—PRIVILEGE.

Colonel FRENCH drew attention to the course pursued by the Select Committee appointed to examine certain parties relative to attempts made to bribe other parties to absent themselves from giving evidence before the Rochdale Election Committee, and complained that the Select Committee had converted themselves into a secret committee. He wished to ask the Speaker if a Select Committee had the power of thus turning itself into a secret committee without any order from the House to that effect?

Mr. HENLEY said the Committee thought the ends of justice and the objects of the House would be best carried out by conducting its proceedings in private; and the members who were present acknowledged the justice of the discretion exercised by the Committee, in retiring from the room, where they had certainly the right to remain.

The SPEAKER said there could be no doubt as to the rule. Members of the House had a right to be present at all Select Committees unless directed by the House to be secret. In the present instance they had not been excluded; they were only told the public service would be best attended to if they retired.

OATHS BILL.

On the order of the day for the consideration of the Oaths Bill, as amended.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD moved a series of clauses, with the view of excluding Jews from the office of Lord Chancellor and some other offices of State, similar to the clauses of a like nature in the Roman Catholic Relief Act, and said that it was unnecessary to make any observations on the subject, as he understood that the Government would not oppose the introduction of the clauses.

Lord PALMERSTON said the Government had introduced no such clauses in the bill, believing that it would be taking safeguards against very improbable contingencies. He was very desirous the Oaths Bill should pass, and he would not oppose the clauses, for, though unnecessary, he did not think them otherwise objectionable.

Sir F. THESSIGER said he would be no party to these clauses, because he would be no party to the Oaths Bill in any shape.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD said the adoption of these clauses would not prevent his taking the sense of the House against the third reading of the bill.

Mr. NEWDEGATE said the bill now presented a singular aspect, for it declared the Jews eligible to make laws, but ineligible to administer them.

After some remarks from Mr. BENTINCK and other hon. members, the clauses were agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time on Thursday.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and passed a large number of votes belonging to the series of Miscellaneous Civil Services, amidst a prolonged discussion.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.

Sir G. GREY moved the second reading of the Reformatory Schools Bill.

Mr. ALCOCK objected on account of the lateness of the hour.

The House divided—For the second reading, 154; against it, 6.

Sir B. HALL, in reply to a question from Colonel French, stated the nature of the arrangements made for the accommodation of the members of both Houses of Parliament at the distribution of the Victoria Cross on Friday, the 26th.

Mr. LOWE obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to Joint-stock Banks.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Lord BROUHAM laid upon the table a bill for the discouragement of vexatious litigation, and explained its provisions.

Earl GRANVILLE, in reply to a question from the Duke of Newcastle, entered into some details respecting the results of the recent exploring expedition into the interior of Australia, and promised that all the information obtained should be laid before the public.

The Joint-stock Companies' Act Amendment Bill was read a second time.

DIVORCES.

The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill was read a third time.

Lord REDESDALE moved a clause to the effect of restricting the Court of Matrimonial Jurisdiction from granting divorces *à vinculo*; but after a short discussion, the clause was negatived by a majority of 91 to 34.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved an amendment restricting the penalty upon defendants found guilty of adultery to fine, and not fine and imprisonment. The amendment was carried by a majority of 49 to 29.

The Bishop of OXFORD opposed the motion that the bill do pass; but, on a division, the bill was carried by a majority of 46 to 25.

The Catholic Charities Bill was read a second time.

The Smoke Nuisance Abatement (Scotland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

FINSBURY PARK.

On the order of the day for reading the Finsbury Park Bill a second time,

Mr. W. WILLIAMS said it was unjust to tax the whole of the metropolis for the exclusive benefit of Finsbury, and moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. COX supported the bill, which led to considerable discussion, in the course of which it transpired that Government had undertaken to ask Parliament to make a grant of £50,000 towards the £350,000 which the park was to cost, the balance to be raised by a rate on the metropolis, which it was assumed would not exceed one farthing in the pound. Very strong objections were made to the application of public money to local purposes, and it appeared as if the bill, which was the first production of the Metropolitan Board of Works, would have been defeated, when

Sir B. HALL came to the rescue, and suggested that the opinion of the House should be taken on the propriety of the grant of £50,000 by moving the adjournment of the debate; all who were for the adjournment being deemed to be opposed to any grant of public money for the purpose.

Mr. MILES adopted this proposition, which he thought had much reason in it, as there was no wish to defeat the bill. He accordingly moved the adjournment of the debate.

After a somewhat stormy discussion the House divided, and the motion for the adjournment of the debate was carried by a majority of 214 to 123.

FISCAL AFFAIRS (IRELAND).

Sir D. NORREYS moved for leave to bring in a bill to provide for the management of the fiscal affairs of counties in Ireland by electoral boards. Colonel FRENCH opposed the bill, as being no improvement whatever on the existing system.

A somewhat protracted and uninteresting discussion ensued, confined exclusively to Irish members, after which the motion was withdrawn.

CULTIVATION OF COTTON IN INDIA.

Mr. J. B. SMITH then moved the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of this House, it is expedient that Parliament shall direct its immediate attention to the best mode of removing the obstacles which impede the application of British capital and skill to the improvement of the productive powers of India." The hon. gentleman adverted to the fact that in our industrial districts manufacture had overtaken production, and it became necessary to look out for fresh sources of supply. For the requisite supply of cotton India was the country which ought naturally to be looked to, but there was no encouragement to British capital and enterprise to apply themselves in that direction. The Government of India was proverbially bad; there were no roads, and but little security for life and property, and no efforts had been made to correct the aridity of the soil by means of irrigation. The tenure of land in India was itself sufficient to check the British capitalist from attempting to bring into cultivation a soil which could be made to be very greatly productive. Except in Bengal, no man could hold an acre of land in fee-simple, and under such a state of the law it was not likely that men would be tempted to embark their capital. He hoped the Government of India would hold out encouragement to capitalists by giving guarantees to them for making railways and other public works, and also by altering the tenure of land in that country.

Mr. TURNER seconded the motion, and bore testimony to the admirable quality of the cotton of India, if properly cultivated and cleaned.

Mr. MANGLES said the subject was a very large and important one, and very little understood. The hon. gentleman had in his speech been visiting the sins of former generations upon the present administrators of the Government of India. When the war broke out with Russia, England would have suffered severely from want of hemp, and other articles of Russian produce, had not India supplied the deficit; and India would also supply all the cotton required by England, if those who wanted it would adopt the same course as had been taken with respect to hemp and oils. The Government of India had guaranteed the interest on £30,000,000 for the purpose of making railways, and had given land for the same purpose to the value of £1,300,000. Works of irrigation had also been promoted, and, in fact, the Company was doing all in its power to improve the condition of the country. The real reason for not growing cotton more largely was the discontinuance of demand for it.

Lord STANLEY contended that the absence of a continuance of demand for cotton was owing to the *laches* of the Indian Government in not having constructed means for its conveyance from the place of culture to the seaboard.

Mr. D. SEYMOUR defended the conduct of the Government of India.

Sir E. PERRY moved the adjournment of the debate.

The debate was then adjourned until Tuesday next.

The remaining business was then disposed of—several bills being advanced a stage.

UNPUBLISHED EARLY REPORTS OF DEBATES IN PARLIAMENT

THE Reports of Parliamentary Debates during the seventeenth century and in the first half of the eighteenth, still preserved in unpublished manuscripts, constitute a portion of the materials of our history not appreciated at its true worth. There are also contemporary tracts published, prior to the struggles of the printers in the last century to enforce the right of Parliamentary reporting—too little known, although they contain contributions from the debates of both Houses—towards our forming a correct estimate of important measures and leading events. The fortunate discovery of a few such reports in manuscript in the State-Paper Office will awaken serious attention to the subject. Those real reports of special debates in the House of Commons were made by one of its members—no less considerable a person than Addison, when he was the second time Irish Secretary. They are contained in letters for the eye of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (the Earl of Sunderland); and they will be found by no means the least interesting chapter among the new memorials of our great literary Statesman, the silent "Spectator," for which we shall be indebted to the promised edition of those memorials by Mr. Bohn.

This discovery must open great treasures of a like character now locked up in many repositories, public or private, unreported; and the opinions and political habits of our forefathers will thus be exhibited in fresh and extremely interesting lights—a little obscured by circumstances, yet easily cleared up.

Although modern reporting, like some other social benefits we now enjoy, really grew out of an old stock of good constitutional usages and established rights, our voluminous daily reports have tended to deepen the shade thrown over those usages and rights. So not only have the curt orations of F—x and B—e, stealthily set up in opposition to the timid speeches of the Minister Lord N—h, as if they were all newly arrived from Utopia, been eclipsed by those voluminous reports; but the present open practice of reporting has introduced a common notion that legitimate exact accounts of debates in Parliament are of exclusively recent use. The fact is far otherwise; and it is not necessary to enter into a dry disquisition about Parliamentary privileges or the inroads of the fourth estate upon it, to establish the point beyond all reasonable doubt. In fact, such privilege never forbade members to make confidential reports of all essential occurrences in Parliament—the proceedings, with their anecdotes, and especially their debates; and the records of the debates having certainly been numerous as well as free, in all the forms that confidential communications can assume, it is not too late to recover them to an appreciable amount. The strong disposition now universal for the production of all such records is exceedingly favourable to research in this promising field.

Two hundred years ago, as we learn from the positive testimony of Francis Osborn, "some of the peers even obtained leave for their sons to stand by the chair of state, and hear the debates—a laudable and most improving way of knowledge," says that sagacious old essayist, whose works deserve a new edition. Unquestionably, the preference of Osborn for "letters and discourse, the storehouse of tradition, over common chronicles," to furnish him with notions of the proceedings in Parliament and affairs of State, had a good foundation. He had read many such letters, he says; and his description of "the Paul's walking newsmongers" is a very curious record of the discharging he himself diligently profited by. Four hours every day for nine months in the year (he tells us) did "the principal gentry, lords, courtiers, and men of all professions," meet in the middle aisle of St. Paul's Church, to discourse of news and affairs of State.

The importance attached to the debates of those days is mentioned by Osborn. His record of the attempt of James I. to corrupt "all the popular and principal speakers," and the House of Commons being, as he insists, "the pulse of the nation," it may be safely concluded that the debates were matters of deep and daily interest to the newsmongers, who communicated personally with the members of both Houses of Parliament. Tradition, in such storehouses would be a sure guarantee for the truths of the more striking details.

Above all things, before the last century, our forefathers were not so careless of their interests as to let the business done at Westminster pass away without some grave record, although their business was usually done with closed doors. Members were at all times free to publish their own speeches; and it was once the usage to enter the debates upon the journals as public documents. This is asserted broadly by Mr. Burke in the grand struggle of William Woodfall and his brethren in 1771, respecting the right to print the debates.

The Scottish Parliamentary practice—to which, on some capital points, we may still resort with advantage—was carried so far in the same spirit, that in Thomson's faithful collection of the statutes, the debates sometimes accompany the text of the laws themselves.

Mr. Burke advocated the revival of this practice, and he bitterly complained that the doors of the House of Commons should be locked when he spoke. This dispirited small minority wanted encouragement from popular sympathy, by speaking out to the public, when "a body of loquacious placenters would tell the world that the opposition of those minorities was simply a factious desire for place." Mr. Burke concluded his indignant denunciation of secrecy of debates with the plain truth that "the House of Commons can never control the functions of the Government, unless the members are themselves controlled by their constituents."

The known imperfect character of the reports up to that time abundantly justifies the foregoing remarks, and "Hansard's History and Debates," invaluable as they are, have already required as valuable supplements as the volumes of Cavendish and Barker. The latter presented to us the wilfully-suppressed proceedings of the great reformed Parliaments of the Commonwealth, which well supported Cromwell in his giant rule abroad and at home. The former, among other merits, brought to light the germs of the vain labours of Burke to avert the severance of the American colonies from the mother country—a fearful price paid through the incapacity of the Colonial office of that day.

Cavendish was a member of the House of Commons in 1771. His reports were in short-hand, learned for mere personal convenience; and he soon acquired so much skill in it, he says, that, from beginning with short notes, he was able to take the debates at large, except in the case of very rapid speakers, whom he could not possibly "keep up with." "Some imperfections," he admits, arose from his inconvenient situation when writing, and some arose from disorder in the House. "Many sublime and beautiful passages are lost," he fears, for ever. But he preserved much, and "never wilfully misrepresented the sentiments of any one member." The value of Mr. Cavendish's reports will be appreciated by the single fact, that he preserved at much length more than two hundred of Burke's speeches in the "unreported Parliament of 1771," as it has been designated. Burke used these notes of his famous speech upon American Discontents, afterwards published by himself with some corrections. It is to be regretted that the able editor of Cavendish's reports did not complete the publication of them.

"Horace Walpole's Letters" furnish many clever reports of debates at which he was present before Cavendish's time; and a Bishop of Oxford, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury (Secker) took careful notes of the debates in the House of Lords for the three years before the Rebellion of 1745. His manuscripts are deposited in the British Museum, as well as the reports taken by Cavendish.

In the same year (1745) appeared the reports of Auchitell Grey, a member of the House of Commons thirty years before and after the Revolution of 1688. The advertisement for their publication states, that the reporter was a person of distinction and strict honour. He was present at all the transactions which he relates, except a few cases mentioned to him by members whom he generally names. As he did not write his reports with a view to publication, he cannot be supposed, says the editor, to have added or suppressed anything by design. After the recent revelations by the *Times*, of the tenderness of their reporters towards second-rate Parliamentary orators, it is to be feared that so much cannot be said of our very best members of the Gallery now.

Boyer wrote his "History of Queen Anne's Reign" partly from genuine notes of the debates in Parliament—"I have," he says, "ever had in view the observation of an ingenious and judicious foreigner (M. de St. Evremont), that he who sets about to write the history of England must write the history of Parliaments. Accordingly I have made it my business to relate the proceedings in Parliament, with such exactness as, I dare say, is not to be met with in any former historian. To this purpose, I have not only used the printed votes, which are in everybody's hands, but I have had recourse to the manuscript journals of both Houses. And I must own my obligations to several public-spirited members, who have either communicated to me many remarkable speeches on important occasions, or procured me opportunities of being an ear-witness to the debates."

These few notices exhibit the interior of Parliament as replete with sources of the best intelligence, and our libraries are not wanting in proof of the diligence and ability with which those sources of intelligence were habitually secured for the instruction of many. The British Museum is rich in such stores; and it may be expected that the spirit abroad which is thus prompting the lawyers to apply the new financial facilities to an improved system of reporting for all the courts of justice, will urge politicians and men of letters to turn the same facilities to account by organising a good plan for reporting the debates of all our Legislatures, not excluding those of the Colonies; and even with an occasional glance at the *British* discussion in the Congress at Washington. The limited liability law-reporting companies will be excellent precursors to a debate-reporting company of the same prudent character; and such an organ of current debates in Parliament, rivalling, if not swallowing up, Hansard by its completeness and economy, would be able to look carefully over the past, and bring in all our old historical stores of this sort with great effect.

This company would contribute greatly to bring the heterogeneous elements of our widely-scattered countrymen into combined action; and when the national time shall be come for the severance from us without convulsions, they will have grown up with so many social characteristics in harmony with us, as to guarantee a future without conflict, or even jealousy.

VILLAGE SCHOOLS, EFFINGHAM, SURREY.

THESE schools, which are conveniently arranged for 100 children, with an industrial room and teacher's residence, form a picturesque block of buildings at the entrance of the village of Effingham. They are built with red bricks and Bath stone dressings, and the grounds are tastefully laid out with lawn and flower garden in front, playground and outbuildings in the rear. Their architect was Mr. A. D. Gough, of Lancaster-place, London.

Effingham, a small village, beautifully situated between Leatherhead and Guildford, was once a large town, according to Munning and Bray's "History of Surrey," but is now a quiet agricultural place. The school was held in a coachhouse up to the time the present building was opened. The feelings and wishes of the late Mrs. Edgar P. Stringer show what can be done for the good of the poor and the benefit of a parish by a little thought; for, instead of a pompous funeral and the trifling away of money in tokens of remembrance to friends and relations, or leaving small legacies perhaps to those who did not require them, such amount has been rendered useful and advantageous, by obtaining with it the aid of a Parliamentary grant, in building that which was much needed in the parish. The circumstances were thus narrated in the sermon preached by the Vicar, the Rev. H. Maitthus, on the opening of the schools:—

A noble Lord, a proprietor, though not a resident in our parish, has most liberally granted and secured to us a most convenient piece of land, on which has been erected that building which is an ornament, and I trust may long be a blessing, to the whole village. But for the schools and house adjoining, for the fittings connected with them, and the pretty garden—for all that portion of the expense which the proprietors and residents in the parish might fairly have been called on to raise—all this one thoughtful and affectionate heart has cared for, one liberal hand supplied. They are the free gift of one who well loved the home of her childhood and youth, the daughter of him whose memory we all must cherish as a kind and bountiful benefactor to this parish, who was ever ready to originate and support each charitable work. Charlotte Stringer lived and grew up amongst us in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. How many of us remember with what unaffected piety and gentleness she befriended her poorer neighbours—how, especially, her zealous desire to educate the young led her to establish an infant school on the hill, which was confided to her fostering care until her marriage!

How quickly seems to have passed away those few years since you saw her united in this church to one also born and brought up in this parish, whose family, beloved and respected, long dwelt among you, until the sudden blow was struck which brought sorrow on the new home which she had blessed, and cut short the course of those labours of love to which her energies were still devoted! On this day twelve months were her mortal remains brought back to her early home and laid by her father's side; and we were sorrowful, but not as others which had no hope, for we, too



PLAISTOW NEW TOWN, OR HALL'S VILLE NATIONAL SCHOOL-SHED.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE UNDER DIFFICULTIES; OR, A NATIONAL SCHOOL IN THE SUBURBS OF LONDON IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

MANY of our readers are not perhaps aware that six miles east of the city of London there is a new town called Hall's Ville. It is in the neighbourhood of the Victoria Docks, and is situated in the parish of Plaistow, in a marsh adjoining the Thames, from which the tide is kept out by the embankment of the river. Every tide formerly flowed over this swamp, and it was not until lately that any one dreamed of building in such a situation; but since the formation of the new docks a large town has been commenced, and even now numbers its population by thousands. We hear much of sanitary boards and sanitary measures, but here is a district seven feet below high-water mark, formerly a peat-bog, but now covered for several feet with the silt of the Thames, and clothed with rich pastures. These marshes are only rendered fit for cattle by dykes or ditches to collect the surface water. There are no trees or fences; but the ditches form the boundaries of the several fields and properties. In wet weather the whole are flooded to the depth of many feet, and the district has the appearance of a large lake; some of the houses being dotted about like small islands. In this dismal swamp Hall's Ville has been built, without any attempt at drainage, and without any legal interference to provide either for the health or comfort of the inhabitants. There are no sewers, scarcely any paths, and the roads are so unformed that the parish will not take them up. They are in wet weather scarcely passable; being one or two feet deep in mire and filth, and are little more than the soil of the marsh trodden up. The ditches are in, around, between, nay, in some instances, even under the very houses, and are the only receptacles of all the sewage of the neighbourhood. Is it any wonder, then, the mortality under such circumstances is five times greater than in other parts of the same parish more favourably circumstanced? The only wonder is that people can live there at all. The inhabitants are chiefly the labourers in the docks, and some factories lately established on the banks of the river, and in habits and morality just what might be expected from persons living under such degrading influences. Such is the character of the place where the little school shed, the subject of the present notice, is built. We append an Engraving of this shed, which is, perhaps, the cheapest national school in the kingdom, and bears witness to the perseverance of the Incumbent of the parish, who has made the best use possible of the very limited means within his reach. A few statistics of this little school will be interesting, and should

any of our readers wish to visit it they will be amply repaid for their trouble. The easiest way to it is by the North Woolwich Railway, from Fenchurch-street. It is in Hall's Ville-road, not far from the Barking-road station. While the docks were forming, and the population was larger than it now is, as many as 200 children were in attendance and on the books of the school at the same time; but, as the shed would not hold all, some were placed in a room in one of the adjoining cottages. As many as 120 children are now in constant attendance, and in every way do credit to the excellent mistress and her admirable teaching.

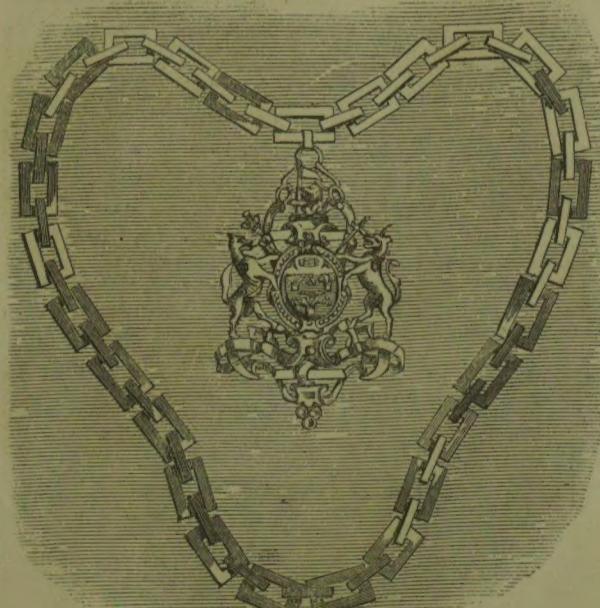
The school was opened in 1848, with eleven scholars; there were then only thirty inhabited houses in the place, yet the poor Incumbent of the parish, whose church is between two and three miles off, cared for these little ones. This school has been in debt from its commencement, though managed with the greatest economy. The mistress, who has sole charge, has only £35 a year, and is deserving of double the money. The shed is built on the unoccupied site of a house in an unfinished row in a very bad part of the town, and 3s. a week is paid for ground-rent; the shed has a lean-to roof, resting against the gable wall of a small grocer's shop; it is 30 feet long, 14 feet 6 inches broad; the extreme height of the roof where it impinges upon the supporting wall is 9 feet, at the eaves only 6 feet 6 inches. The sides and ends of the shed are composed of rough waste slabs, or boards cut from the outside of balks of fir timber, full of rents and shakes; the roof is of the same, covered with felt, now quite rotten. The only light is from the roof, in which two miserable sashes from an old greenhouse have been inserted. The glass is happily much broken, which, together with the rents in the boards, provides for ventilation. In cold weather this is quite sufficient for most people's feelings, in such a cold, damp, and bleak situation. In wet weather the mistress is literally obliged to keep school under an umbrella, for besides the broken glass the roof is far from water-tight. The whole cost of the school, including fixtures and furniture, was £14, and being three years old, is nearly tumbling to pieces.

As before stated, the children have been well taught, and they have passed most satisfactory examinations, as testified by the Diocesan Inspector on more than one occasion. Moreover, for want of a better place, Church services were constantly held in this shed during the time that Mr. Marsh had a Curate. There was no other Church service in Hall's Ville: but this was obliged to be given up for want of funds, to the great grief of the earnest congregation which used to fill the shed to overflowing every Sunday. Our readers will not be surprised that this could not be continued when they are informed that Mr. Marsh,

the Incumbent of Plaistow, in whose parish Hall's Ville is placed, with a private income of only £70 a year, gave £100 a year for two years and a half to the Curate out of his living, the value of which was only £180 a year. He could get no help, and his school was sadly in debt. To enable him to resume his Church services in a more suitable building and with suitable help—in fact, to do the work of the Church as it ought to be done—the Plaistow and Victoria Dock Mission, on a large scale, has been set on foot. We are glad to learn that it is not intended to wait for costly churches or endowments for clergy, but to make the school accommodation as complete as possible, and to have in the schools short and attractive services from the Prayer Book, suited to the capacity of the untaught and very poor. They are to be school churches as well as church schools; music will be taught, and there will be instructive lectures on popular subjects. In short, it is intended to popularise the church, and to make it in reality the poor man's church. The plan has received the cordial sanction of the Bishop of London, and, at the earnest entreaty of the promoters of the Mission, his Lordship has kindly consented to select the right sort of earnest, devoted men, who are to live amongst the poor as the poor. We heartily commend the scheme to a Christian public.

BADGE AND CHAIN OF THE MAYOR OF SALFORD.

It needs but a very slight acquaintance with mediæval metal-work to be aware that the corporate bodies of our old cities were great patrons of jewellers and silversmiths—as great, indeed, as the ecclesiastics themselves. Indeed, a large portion of fine specimens of plate and jewellery of the highest character belongs to our City companies; and it is to the preservation and exhibition of these precious relics that the present impetus and elevation given to goldsmiths' work may be attributed.



BADGE AND CHAIN OF THE MAYOR OF SALFORD.

Manchester has shown us what an Art Exhibition can be; and Salford is willing to rival her twin sister in taste, if not in the magnitude of her undertakings. We engrave above a Gold Chain and Badge, made for the Corporation for the purpose of being worn by the successive Mayors of Salford. It is, probably, as true and sound an instance of goldsmiths' work as has been made since the days of George Heriot. Every portion of it is well finished and massive, and the Badge is a very excellent specimen of heraldic enamelling. The arms, granted by the Heralds' College, are—azure a shuttle or, between three wheat-sheaves, and as many bees of the second, on a chief or, a bale of wool between two mill-rinds azure. The supporters are heraldic wolves. The motto—a very fit and appropriate one for a city which, though born of yesterday, occupies so proud a position as that of Salford—"Integrity and Industry." The Badge and Chain have been prepared by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, of London.



VILLAGE SCHOOLS, EFFINGHAM.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

NEW MUSIC, &c.

MARRIOTT'S FOREST QUEEN
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